— I have designed to observe in a way of abstinence from food, the birthdays of every member of this family during this year. This is John's birthday, and tho' in no way related to us, yet as we have undertaken to instruct and govern him and his brother, I think it my duty to endeavour to lead them to a knowledge of their duty as rational and immortal beings — I shall deny myself the customary indulgence of the appetite till dinner, and devote unusual time to the duty of prayer. We have many examples of the efficacy of prayer and fasting — I firmly believe in it and I must practice it when my health will permit. Our great Master said I have meat to eat that ye know not of. I hunger O my Father for this bread of life — increase I beseech thee, this hunger — and feed me with this heavenly food and let me drink of the water of life, which if a man drink he will never thirst for the perishing vanities of time. And now O divine Spirit breathe into my soul the spirit of grace and supplication, and may my prayer come before thee as incense, being presented by him who is our great High Priest — before the throne of God. —

Page 1st

Feb. 4th 1834 It is now fifty ~~five~~ years, since my existence in this world began. I would devote to serious meditation and grateful adoration a part of this day which is set apart for the purpose. Let not the humiliation which I practice, be a mere formality; but affecting the heart, may it be the means of producing the fruits of righteousness. From the first moments of my life, I would acknowledge thy care and mercy; I would praise thee, for parents and grandparents who feared the Lord — and that thou didst early make me to feel an ardent desire for my own salvation, and that of my friends — To the blessed operation of thy Spirit, I would ascribe it, that my youth was in some measure devoted to thee, and for the strength which has enabled me to hold on my weary way, and now when old and grey headed, to enquire with earnest solicitude what I shall render ~~to~~ the Lord for all his benefits. I do indeed feel an encreasing desire to spread the knowledge of truth and duty — to do something which shall advance the cause which Jesus came to establish. For wisdom to direct and assist I look to thee. Forgive I pray thee all my sins, and never let me lose the sense of thy favours. I pray especially at this time, for thy supporting presence in the solemn scene of my departure. Do not I beseech thee suffer me to dishonour thee in nature's last conflict. Stand near O thou who hast promised never to leave thy children support and cheer the departing spirit and receive it to thy presence. and while this frail tabernacle continues, help me to serve and honour thee. Let it be my meat and drink to do thy will.

Page 2d

March 18th 1834 I have been looking back to the suffer[illegible]
one year ago, to the joyful deliverance, when [illegible] pre-
and to the succeeding mercies which have been poured upon us all ever
since." But especially would I notice the goodness of God, in regard
the child whose birth I this day commemorate. I hope I feel some
gratitude that we were able to devote him to God by baptism, and
for all those amiable qualities which have shewn themselves in
his disposition and conduct. I would also give thanks for the
intellectual powers which ~~[illegible]~~ been given him, and
for the taste for knowledge and improvement which are so
visible. But above all I thank God that he has disposed him
to make a public surrender of himself to him and his servi[ce]
And now what wait I for? my hope is in thee. Thou knowest
the motives which lead me to these services. Our great Master
said "when thou fastest anoint thy head and wash thy face &c
and thy father who seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."
But what is the reward I seek? durable riches and
righteousness for myself and all mine. yea more for all
mankind. Accept, O thou King of glory and grace, the
humiliation of this morning, and make me truly thankful
for health and strength to do this duty and so strengthen
and bless this dear child that all his remaining life may
be eminently devoted to thy service. Whatever course thou
seest best for him to pursue, wilt thou mark out so plain-
ly that he cannot err and thro' all this uncertain state
wilt thou conduct him safely, to the realms of light and
knowledge and purity, where may we all at length meet the
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

April 10th This morning I have set apart especially on account of Cooley
Dickinson our relation, who for more than a week has been
in a state of mental derangement. Our blessed Lord said "this
kind cometh not forth but by prayer and fasting." And the
apostles said even the devils were subject unto us. Is not this
then a sufficient reason for the followers of Jesus, to perform
this duty of humiliation? I believe it is, and I mourn
that the duty of fasting is so ~~much~~ little attended to
Where is our help but in Almighty power? and shall
we fail to use every method which the word of God
authorizes to draw down blessings from heaven? we are
weak, ignorant, more than that, we are sinful, polluted,
destitute of that purity and holiness of heart and life which
is necessary to see God. we are liable to innumerable evils
where can we find protection and relief but in God.
then O! how suitable that with every expression of sorrow
and humility and trust, we come to him who is able to do
exceeding abundantly above what we can ask or think.
Even so amen, do for us of thy mercy in Christ Jesus.
And especially for thy servant whom thou lovest. amen.

April 11th 1834 - Another birth-day calls me to the duty of abstinence and prayer. And whatever calls us to communion with God we ought to esteem a blessing. Our dear Mary is nineteen years old - and I come to make the same petitions for her, which were then made, even that she may be sanctified throughout in spirit soul and body. - The mercies bestowed upon her ever since, are like the passing moments of life, only with every moment, innumerable blessings are flowing all around us. During the last year, from being feeble and infirm she has become comparatively strong and healthy. May our gratitude be in some degree proportionate. But the spiritual blessings of which we are made the partakers transcend all our powers of conception. We look forward and beyond the present scene, and mingle our songs of praise with our dear departed children, for the hope of immortality; tho' they have passed the bounds of mortality, and have ceased to mourn and to suffer, who can say that their happiness is not enhanced by the assurance or hope that it will never terminate? Looking back upon life, every thing that has not been connected with duty and God, vanishes like the floating bubble - O my Father help me at this time to plead for her the blessings of the covenant. Thou hast said of thy children "I will cause them to pass under the rod, and bring them into the bond of the covenant." Let the sorrows she has endured never cease to have a salutary influence over her. Thanks to thy name that she has joined herself to thy people O save her from the temptations and allurements of the world and bring her safe with all our dear family to thy holy kingdom

April 25th 1834 I look back upon this day twenty seven years ago, and find the intervening period crowded with mercies to me and mine. I think of the joy which I experienced on receiving this renewed token of God's goodness. How singularly I was then favoured - and how wonderfully my profitless life has been prolonged. - But especially would I praise God, that he has thus far carried our dear Edward in the arms of his Providence, provided for him employment means of usefulness, a situation desirable, and near home. These however they may gratify our feelings, are after all of secondary importance. The blessings which I would notice with peculiar interest and gratitude, are those of an immortal ~~nature~~ kind, blessings which relate not to the perishing things of time but which extend thro' the whole of our existence. I would bow myself before thee O thou Most High and Holy - under a deep sense of thy favours, in that thou hast given him a strong moral sense and a fixed determination to serve thee with his first and best powers. ~~[illegible]~~ I thank thee for all the filial respect, and affection which he manifests - and for every estimable quality with which thou hast endowed him, and most devoutly beg of thee, to enable him to make continual progress in knowledge and virtue that we may at length join together in thy presence in those acts of worship and service which will constitute the true felicity of thy redeemed children. -

April 27th 1834 - According to the rule which I laid down for myself for the present year; this has been a day of peculiar prayer and humiliation in behalf of Benjamin a little black boy whom we have undertaken to bring up. Shortly after the departure of our beloved Whiting, we received him into our family; and I can truly say that I undertook it, with a view to promote the Redeemer's kingdom. The comfort I enjoyed with regard to the lives and deaths of our dear children, inspired me with an earnest desire to do something by which to testify my gratitude. The work is indeed attended with great difficulty and discouragement. But looking to Jesus, remembering what he encountered and suffered, I blush at my weakness. What! said the deserted Jesus, could not ye watch one hour? - Methinks I hear him saying to me, will you not bear a slight cross, endure a trifling conflict, to rescue one soul from misery and death? - one of the souls for which I fasted and wept, and sweat great drops of blood and finally gave up my life? - O yes blessed Jesus, I am ashamed of my lukewarmness, of my wavering faith, of my love of ease. Forgive me O thou compassionate Saviour, and help me in every scene of trial, to remember the blessed words of assurance spoken to thy desponding disciples, Lo I am with you always even to the end of the world. - O Hear merciful Father, thro' thy beloved Son, the petitions which I have this day offered to thee for this child - He is now seven years old. Grant that from this day he may become gentle obedient kind and humble. Is it too much to ask that thou wilt qualify him to become a preacher of righteousness to his own people? - O Lord help us so to train him up that he may be a partaker of peace and rest in heaven.

May 8th 1834 The birth day of Mr Fisher, and the dear departed Catherine - At our family worship this morning I proposed to have read the hymn which our beloved Whiting wrote on C-s birth day - Mr H- took the book and read the first verse, but could go no further; however it gave I think a turn to all our thots, and we were led to contemplate the glorious scenes of the heavenly state, and offer up fervent prayers that we may be again united in those peaceful regions. Will God be pleased to furnish my dear E- with with all those qualifications which shall make her faithful to the highest trust committed to her. For her who sleeps, or rather who has joined the immortal throng, I cannot suffer anxiety - To depart and be with Christ is far better than to be here. Let it then be my constant prayer and endeavour, to imitate those who thro' faith and patience inherit the promises - Among these methinks I see H- and C-. May my eyes be constantly directed upward, to that great Leader who will surely conduct all his followers, to those mansions which he has prepared for them in heaven. - and O may I never cease to be grateful for these precious gifts

Page 6th

May 18th 1834 - My life is still continued, and my health preserved, so that I am able to humble myself before thee O my Father, in behalf of this immortal being Francis Fisher - Six years ago he was introduced with a twin brother, into this world of trial temptation and suffering. And for them both I would earnestly implore the blessings of the covenant. Thou hast shewn great mercy to my children, and thou hast promised to "pour out thy Spirit upon our seed, and thy blessing upon our offspring." "Thou hast confirmed thy word unto thy servant upon which thou hast caused me to hope." My own experience is a witness to the truth of thy promises. From my youth I have sought thy precepts, tho' alas! with too little ardour, yet even in my old age thou knowest that thy favour and blessing is better to me than thousands of gold and silver. What is the rich inheritance, the choice boon, ~~the~~ which I now ask in behalf of these children? Not riches or honor, or pleasure but O Infinite Father, thy own image, a resemblance of thy purity, and benevolence. Be pleased so to subdue every unholy principle within ~~them~~, that the good seed of divine truth which is sown in their hearts, may yield an abundant increase. May their parents be furnished with all those qualifications, which shall enable them to discharge faithfully the duties which their relations demand; and may every future duty which I owe to thee and my family, be so performed, that when death comes, I may have the approbation of conscience and the acceptance of my God, thro' Jesus Christ amen. -

May 23d 1834 - Elvira is eighteen years old today. I have been seeking for her in the prescribed way, the blessings of salvation, and I would now endeavour to praise thee for all that thou hast wrought in her. that the death of our dear Catherine was blessed abundantly for her good; that thou hast given her so much concern for her immortal welfare, and so much of a disposition to purify herself from sin. May the blessed Spirit take of the things of Christ and shew them to her. May she have a well grounded hope of acceptance with thee, and be able to persevere even unto the end, and be saved. May all the future circumstances of her life, be so ordered by thy Providence, as to qualify her for usefulness, that she may at length be admitted to that pure and holy society which ~~which~~ is ever doing thy will and enjoying thy favour. I would entreat Allmighty God, to forgive all ~~that~~ has been amiss in my treatment of her, and my intercourse with her. My faults are numerous and aggravated. Suffer no evil consequences to follow from my negligence or mismanagement. Help me O Father in time to come to exercise more meekness, forbearance longsuffering, and gentleness: and fulfilling the great law of love, may my future life be more agreeable to the requirements of thy word, and more conducive to my own peace and comfort, for Christ sake

Page 8th.

August 15th. Four years ago our dear Catharine's earthly tabernacle was giving way, and the wearied spirit preparing to take its flight from earth. What a day of darkness! Literally the heavens gathered blackness; clouds and darkness were about him, whose way is in the sea, and whose footsteps are not known. But her departure was as a sleep – no agonizing struggle to rend the hearts of surrounding friends – the agony and the struggle had been long and severe. But at last she slept quietly in Jesus, and we resigned her to his faithful arms, relieved in thinking that her conflict was over, and the days of her mourning were ended. And now, I would not suffer this event, as it recedes from the view and the memory in the distance of time, to lose its effect upon my feelings disposition and conduct. I have attempted to make it a day of special prayer and meditation accompanied with fasting. I do this to deepen my own sense of eternal things and to testify to my heavenly Father my resolution to adhere to his ways, and my desire to become more worthy of a place among his redeemed children. In view of the unmerited and wonderful goodness of God to this beloved child, and to our beloved son, who two years since left us such an example of the power of faith, I would call upon my soul and all within me to bless and praise him. And I would entreat of Him, that we may all be enabled to live the life, and die the death of the righteous.

Oct. 7th 1834. Another anniversary the birth day of our Bethia. I have endeavoured to commit her often this day to the kind protection and direction of him who brought her into existence. Here is all my trust, the mercy and kindness of a covenant keeping, faithful Creator. I love to read the record of God's love in the history of the Patriarchs and prophets, his condescension to human weakness, his forbearance and patience with his children, his promises of support and favour, to those who keep his statutes, and observe his word – and I would with heartfelt gratitude review the scenes of my past life, and praise that goodness which delivered me in danger, preserved me in sickness & strengthened me in weakness; but especially now would I thank God for all that is amiable and lovely and desirable in this child that thou hast inclined her to know and seek and serve the God of her fathers, and to choose the kingdom of Christ before all the alluring vanities of the world. I bring her again to thee asking for her all those spiritual blessings which may enable her to honour thee here and enjoy thee forever in the life to come. I ask not for wealth or honours or any of the things which have not power to purify and elevate the soul but the fear and love of God, the faith which purifies the heart and life, produces good works and overcomes the world, which gives peace in death and unites to the Saviour. May we all possess this faith and live the life of the righteous, that we may be entitled to the blessedness of their death, for Jesus sake. –

Page 5th

May 24th 1834. At this time thirty two years ago, I was in pain and anguish - but about two o'clock deliverance came, and I was made the living joyful mother of a living and proper and promising son. We united in giving thanks to God and imploring his blessing on the child. And day and night he has been the subject of our prayers and hopes and fears - My hope for him is in the mercy of a covenant keeping God. Thou hast been my hope from my youth. And wilt thou not be the hope and portion of my children? This son is in a conspicuous station. His influence is considerable; he is at the head of a family. On these accounts O how important and desirable that he should let his light shine. I wait on thee my soul doth wait, and in thy name do I trust. but hope delayed maketh the heart sick. My earnest desire is that he may come out from a thoughtless world and give no countenance, to indifference and levity and neglect of duty. I long to see him a man of prayer. not ashamed of the cross of Christ, he is correct and upright in his general conduct, professing by communion with the people of God, to be governed by the laws of Christ, & Why does he not become openly a man of prayer. Lord increase his faith. I cannot let thee go except thou bless him. I would wrestle as did thy servant of old. I would plead as did our blessed Lord in the garden, reiterating my petitions with greater and greater importunity. O God of mercy let it be the fervent prayer which shall avail much. I would present these supplications in the name and thro' the intercession of thy beloved Son. for him thou always hearest. Amen.

May 28th To day I commemorate the birth of two dear children, bone of my bone & flesh of my flesh. One as I hope a glorified Spirit in heaven, employed in the work of angels - singing the new song, the song of Moses and of the Lamb; Or flying like Gabriel very swiftly, bearing messages of love to his brethren of our race, who still struggle on, in the upward course. Peace to thy Spirit, Blessed Son! I praise God that he has given me such a hope concerning him. May a large portion of his spirit rest upon every one of our dear family. Especially for him who on the same day of the same month, was brought into this probationary state, I would at this time intercede. Thou O searcher of hearts, knowest, that it is not for wealth or fame or pleasure that I ask - the baubles of time can never satisfy my soul, which thirsts, and faints for the bread and water of life for my self and all mine. With fasting and prayer I come to thee; day & night my desires ascend to thee. Hear O my Father in heaven when I present my supplications in the name of the one Mediator who maketh intercession for us. May this year on which he now enters witness his self dedication to thee, may he have grace given him to triumph over the allurements of the world, and present himself soul and body a living sacrifice to God. O hear and accept pardon and answer for Jesus sake amen.

July 12th 1834 - I am ashamed and humbled on account of my neglect of duty - Thursday we had company much to do and much to think of and I retired to rest without my usual season of devotion; and I was punished for it - the next morning, the spirit of God, which I had driven away by my dullness, withheld his influence reminding me that it was a birth day, sacred to devotion, nor did I think of it till about nine o'clock, when T- himself spoke of it. - It shocked me, and grieved me, but I hope it will teach me never, never, to omit this duty. What an unspeakable privilege to be allowed to hold communion with this great and glorious Being. and shall we ever be backward to improve it? - O Lord forgive and assist in time to come. Our dear Theophilus was brought into being twenty three years ago yesterday. I would notice the kind interpositions of my heavenly Father, in a time of unusual danger. His hand preserved and strengthened, gave life and preserved it - For the multiplied mercies of the intervening period, my heart would desire to render some suitable tribute - I would at this time speak of the wonderful goodness of God in restoring to health and ease, and strength this son, who one year ago, was as a shadow, fleeing away. - O God thou hast clothed his bones with flesh again and braced his nerves and he is strong to labour. for these favours I would bless thee but above all would I call upon my soul to thank thee, that thou hast set his feet in the paths of uprightness, - hast im=planted within him those principles and dispositions which purify and elevate the soul. - help him I beseech thee to persevere and increase in every thing excellent - and grant to us all, yet once more to meet and dwell together in that state of purity and peace, whither we hope two of our number have thro' Jesus Christ already entered -

July 16th Began the duties of the day early, by raising my thoughts to God in behalf of this son who is now thirty years of age. In the exercises of this day I would not forget to praise God, that he restored him when wandering, followed him in solitude, convinced him when in the mazes of infidelity and unfolded to his view those sublime truths and duties and hopes, which are the nourishment and delight of the believing soul - And now would I remember, the divine goodness to me at his birth, and in all the intervening time. Goodness and mercy have followed us, and tho' one wave of affliction after another has rolled over us, and it has seemed as if we should be swallowed up quick, yet the strong hand of infinite power, and love, has sustained us, and by help obtained we yet continue. And now O Eternal Father, bless this thy servant, with all spiritual blessings - as he has desired to devote himself to the promotion of Christ's kingdom wilt thou guide and assist him in all his purposes. and having done and suffered thy will here may he be received to those glorious services, which the spirits of the just made perfect are fitted to per=form without weariness and without interruption. May this family all so improve the little that remains to us of life, as to be prepared for the eternal worship and peace and rest of heaven. thro' Jesus Christ amen.

Hadley August 10th 1834 – This blessed sabbath, I have been again permit=ted to enter the courts of the Lord, and join in his worship. Heard two excellent sermons from our Pastor, one in the morning upon these words of James. 1st chapter, but be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. On self deception. This afternoon Romans 12th chapter 12 verse. continuing instant in prayer. On the duty of stated earnest private prayer. It is vain to flatter ourselves that we are religious, if we neglect prayer. or if we pray only occasionally. there is no duty which so assimilates us to God, purifies and elevates the soul– so much as prayer. – nothing which strengthens us so much against temp=tation, arms us to meet trials, and gives us peace in death, as communion with God.– So this my own experience testifies. when I have freedom of access to God in prayer, duties are pleasant & the heart cheerful and hap=py. Blessed be God who hath chased away the fears and clouds, that a short time since, dimmed my view of spiritual things, and obscured the light of hope and comfort in my soul– and continue O my Father to cheer me and bless me. At noon read in Saurin's Sermons. This evening heard one of Paley's sermons read. and sung one of our beloved Whiting's hymns for sabbath evening. At this time four years ago our dear Catherine was sinking under the weight of excessive anguish by disease. yea a sword pierced thro' my own soul also. and I was made to pass thro' the iron furnace. But thanks be to God who giveth the victory – death tho' to most of us the King of terrors, is however the messenger appointed by our heavenly Father to bear his children home. Death releases from the pains and fears and doubts of mortality, and introduces the child of God to the general assembly and church of the first born whose names are written in heaven, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant and to God the Judge of all. Shall we not with all our powers, praise and bless that Saviour who has said I am the resurrection and the life, and because I live ye shall live also. whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. The time approaches. every month as it passes brings us onward to our journey's end– let us improve the fleeting hours that remain; hours of health and ease. in the service of our master doing his will & walking in his steps, tho' at a fearful distance.– I have spoken to Frederick and to others of late to try to direct their feet into the way of peace, if right let a blessing follow, if it be wrong save me from future error– let me not intrude officiously, neither let me be afraid to speak for the honour of God and the good of souls. Fit us all O Lord God, for the events of thy providence above all for a peaceful death and a holy heaven, thro' J. C.

2 August 17th Today is four years since our present pastor, was with us to perform the last sad offices to our lovely Catherine. The hymn which was sung on that occasion, was sung at our church this morning ~~and a sermon~~ In the soft season of thy youth &c. and a sermon to youth was delivered from these words, Wist ye not that I must be about my Fathers business - if he had intended to ~~preach~~ the anniversary, he could not have chosen a better subject ~~nor~~ presented ~~in a~~ He insisted much upon the duty of making a public profession of religion. This I noticed particularly as a singular coincidence. God only knows with what earnest desires I have besought him to incline the heart of our youngest child to unite himself with the church. He also knows, how often I have urged this dear child privately, to perform this duty - endeavouring to point out to him the motives which should influence him, and exhorting him to lay the case before his heavenly Father in prayer, and thus seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I have never known of having any one to assist me in this duty, till last week; he told me that William had been talking with him upon this subject, and urged him not to delay any longer. remembering this, and then hearing our minister express the same views, I was led to hope, that the Spirit of God was indeed operating, and that this object of my fond hope, and many others also, might soon be seen pressing into the kingdom, renouncing the world, and joining themselves to the Lord in an everlasting covenant, never to be forgotten! Amen, even so Lord Jesus -. In the afternoon the text was in Ecclesiastes. time and chance happen to all. By chance is not meant any thing taking place without the knowledge of God. To him every thing is naked and opened, but to us every thing is uncertain. every thing but one, and of this we are sure and can never be disappointed - virtue or righteousness, or integrity or goodness, will in the end secure happiness - here is an object which we cannot seek too earnestly nor love too well - for we cannot be disappointed - disappointment is a creature of the dust, creeping about among the sordid things of time and sense. but she never rises among spiritual objects. ~~So~~ true is it that they who trust in God and do his will, shall be as mount Zion which can never be moved. May we all be fixed in this resolution

August 24th Mary and I went to N—n and were permitted again to hear our dear minister— in the morning from Psalm 51st. 4th Against thee, thee only &c— This afternoon from Matthew 13th— the parable of the sower. One idea has been impressed upon my mind with unusual force to day. I have thot much, lately, of Zechary who came to live with us when a little boy. and of his diligent attention to the bible; whenever he came in to warm him in winter, before he sat down, he would get his b bible. that he might not lose any time. I have thot that this desire to read the bible might have been excited by the death of his mother which took place just before he came to live with us. Then I thot how happy I should be if Benjamin could be made as attentive to his bible and duty as this child was. And then I continued the chain of thought, and found that probably he would never have such affection for any friend as Zechary had for his mother, cut off as he is from his kindred, so that there is not a person living whose death would be a source of lasting grief with him. And then I felt that it is my duty to endeavour to attatch him as much as possible to myself and the family, so that if any of us should be taken away before him, it might make a deep impression upon his feelings. So that ~~tho'~~ we should not be able to effect for him what we wish in life we might possibly by our death be an eternal blessing to him.— So I have resolved to take particular pains ~~&~~ by kindness in every way to make him feel a tender regard for me and all our family.— Lord help me to persevere in every good work.

Prayer. "O thou who art the only living and true God, the blessed and only Potentate, King of Kings and Lord of lords. Thou art the God who hast fed us all our life, unto this day, and thy compassions fail not; they are repeated to us every moment; great is thy faithfulness. We avouch the Lord, this day, to be our God, ~~to walk~~ and we would make it our constant endeavour, to keep his commandments; to hearken to his voice

"to give ourselves unto him, to be his servants, that we may be holy unto the Lord our God. Thou hast commanded us to pray always; to continue instant in prayer, and in every thing by prayer and supplication, to make known our requests unto God. Thou hast appointed us a great High Priest, in whose name we may come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may find mercy, and grace to help in time of need. We do not think we shall be heard for our much speaking, but our master hath told us, that whatsoever we ask the Father in his name, he will give it us. And he hath also said, ask and ye shall receive that your joy may be full. Lord we come to thee as the poor publican, who stood afar off, and would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but smote upon his breast and we pray as he did, God be merciful to us sinners. For who is a God like unto thee, who pardonest iniquity, and passest by the transgression of the remnant of thine heritage. We have sinned but we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. In him Lord we believe help thou our unbelief. Confirm within us all those desires and resolutions which shall enable us to overcome the temptations and allurements of the world, and bring us off conquerors thro' him who hath loved us and given himself for us. Our Lord hath taught us to pray not only with but for others, and we would pray as we are taught, for all men. O God of mercy look with compassion, upon the world that lies in wickedness, and let the prince of this world be cast out. Destroy the man of sin, with the breath of thy mouth and the brightness of thine appearing Let thy way be known on earth and thy saving health among all nations. Give thy son the heathen for his inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for his possession. Let the people who sit in darkness see great light, and to them which sit in the region and shadow of death, let light spring up. Bring thy seed from the east, and gather them from the west; say to the north give up, and to the

"south, keep not back; bring thy sons from far, and thy 5
daughters from the ends of the earth. Let them come with acceptance to thine altar, and glorify the house of thy glory. In every place let incense be offered to thy name and a pure offering, and let thy name be great among the Gentiles. We pray for the Jews thine ancient covenant people, by whom we have been made acquaint=ed with the giving of the law, and the glory, and the covenants; let them be made to look unto him whom they have pierced; and turn unto the Lord. May the churches of our own beloved country be a quiet habitation, a taber=nacle that shall not be taken down. Let none of the stakes be removed, nor any of the cords thereof be broken, but let the glorious Lord be to us a place of broad waters and streams; for the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our law=giver, the Lord is our King, he will save us. And to this end, wilt thou teach thy ministers how to behave them selves, that they may preach not themselves but Jesus Christ the Lord. Let the arms of their hands be made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob, and let them be full of power by the ~~[illegible]~~ Spirit of the Lord of Hosts, to shew thy people their transgression and the house of Jacob their sins. Let the schools of the prophets, be replenished with every good and every perfect gift from above; and from thence may there continually issue streams which shall make glad the cities and churches of our God. May those who rule over us, be just, ruling in the fear of God, and let those who judge, remember that they must also stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Enable our magistrates to defend the poor and fatherless, to do justice for the afflicted and needy, to deliver the poor and the oppressed, and to rid them out of the hand of the wicked, and let rulers never be a terror to good works but to the evil. — Our Father in Heaven we would render praise to thy name, for all the assurance thou hast given us, that the noise of the battle and the warrior shall cease, and there shall be nothing to hurt or destroy in all thy holy

6 "mountain. But above all we bless thee, for the hope of life beyond the grave. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath begotten us again to a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. We need not sorrow over our departed friends as those who have no hope; for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so also them that sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. And if the earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we know that we have a building of God an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens. In view of these exceeding great and precious promises may we continue stedfast unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. - Hear us O our Father; forgive and accept us, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

August 31st. To day I have been at home, with John, and Benjamin Mr. H- gone to Vernon -. Last Wednesday Mr W- T- & J. B. M- F, and I went to commencement at Amherst - found the exercises of an elevated character. The day before, Charles & Helen, with Fanny came over, Charles and Mary went to Amherst to hear the address of Mr. Ver- Planck - also Mr W and William - Friday we had a very interesting meeting with our cousins S. M. C. and C. the subject for investigation was the character of Moses. The pieces which were written, were correct and showed talent and taste in the writers. After reading we had a free conversation upon the same subject, while at work, and then Sarah requested to hear some of our dear Whiting's hymns read. another meeting appointed two weeks from that time, to be held at Mrs. Phelps'. Yesterday morning Elvira took her leave of us, to go to Mr. Scott's. May God himself go with her, provide for her, guide her, and bless her, and fit us all to meet again in a world of light, and peace and love, and join our dear departed friends, no more to separate. -

Sept. 7th 1834 B. Theophilus, John, and Henry went with me to N-n. Mr Stearns preached a very interesting sermon in the morning, from these words in Joshua, As for me and my house we will serve

the Lord! The advantages, and propriety of family prayer stated in Gay's sermon's at noon. In the afternoon the text was in Ephesians 4th 6th One God and Father of all. The morning's sermon was very gratifying to me, as the subject has long been to me one of deep interest. My earnest prayers ascended to God that he would make the instruction powerful and efficacious, to lead all masters and heads of families to perform this duty. Thou O my Father knowest what anxiety I feel, what intense solicitude that my children should be praying people; that they should learn to pray with all prayer and supplication of the spirit — many of them seem to be beginning the christian life. But I stand in doubt of them. I long to see them all strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. I do not desire any earthly good, for them or myself. rather deprive us of the comforts we now enjoy than suffer us to make them our idols; save us from the delusion of thinking that we can serve God and mammon. I think I do not deceive myself when I profess to be crucified to world and the world to me. but the souls of my children are not the world, they are sparks of the Infinite Intelligence and I cannot bear to see them drawn away from their rightful Lord and owner. All that relates merely to this world I would regard with indifference but O my Father, save their souls qualify the immortal part for a participation of thy own likeness and presence, thro' Jesus Christ amen

Sept. 14th We have all again been to worship at K—n excepting Bethia and Theodore. Text in 1st Peter, 1st 15th But as he who hath called you is holy so be ye holy in all manner of conversation. The christian life is progression. If any abuse this doctrine by indulgence in some sins, they deceive themselves. The true christian, hates and wages war with all sin. and tho' in this life he may never get the entire victory, yet he continues the struggle, looking to Jesus. O what a shame is it to us who name the name of Christ that we are so languid, so faint and faltering in our obedience to him; when he has not only given to us all the instruction

3 we need, but has gone before us, leaving us an example that we should tread in his steps, we follow like Peter afar off — or perhaps, by our worldliness or sensuality like him deny our Lord and master. O Lord mark not our iniquities against us. At noon took over the history of Jacob. This afternoon the text was in John 15th chapter, 8th verse. Christians glorify their Father in heaven when they endeavour to make known his perfections, to display his goodness, the wonders of creation and Providence, but more when they imitate him, when like our great pattern, we go about doing good, or in our several stations perform the various duties with a desire to secure his approbation and acceptance. Returning from church, was cut to the heart by a striking instance of my meddling disposition & when shall I learn humility modesty silence. Lord keep me or I shall stray never to return. hold me up or I shall fall never to rise. I am filled with shame and covered with confusion. By thine wounds may sin be purged away and thus, may I learn that self abasement, and lowliness which is the spring of all virtue. Friday had a very pleasant meeting of our society. The subject was the temple. The next is the history and character of Jacob. Save me I beseech thee alike from criminal backwardness to speak on religion and a too high conceit of myself. Thursday we met friends at Walter's, had a refreshing conversation with Mrs. Whitmarsh. A choice spirit; & how ravishing the thought, that the period will arrive, when our intercourse will be only with the friends of God. Our eyes and our ears and our hearts will be no longer pained with the sins and vices and miseries of our race. Even now while sojourning here among them, our sermon this evening told us that we live not in vain. Our Saviour prayed not that his followers should be taken out of the world, but preserved from the evil. While we live here then O our Father, keep us from the evil — and prepare us for thyself — thro' Jesus Christ our

— Saturday evening Oct. 4th 1834 — Almost three weeks ~~a fortnight~~ has passed since I made the last ~~entry~~ record here; two weeks ago tomorrow morning Brother was taken down with a sore throat, and fever, [illegible]

some alarming symptoms; I staid at home with her and made use of such remedies as appeared proper; these by the blessing of God were beneficial and in two or three days she was restored to her usual station and ~~duties~~. While she was sick how sensibly did I feel my need of divine support; what a weak, fearful, distrustful rebel! — when death in any form appears, my heart sinks within me, and I seem to lose all the faith which I ever thought I possessed. instead of holding fast my confidence, I seem to be in a state of trembling, and anxiety, unfitt to minister to the sick, or do any thing in a right manner. The cheering and animating views which I enjoy in health, all seem to be obscured, and the fear of suffering & death, overcomes the hope of life and immortality. Why is it thus? — Do the children of God feel thus? — O for a faith like that which our dear Whiting exhibited, strong in death. For this I pray. O turn not away from the voice of my supplication. On the 22d Sept. about seven in the evening, our dear Helen was made the joyful mother of another living and proper child, a son — very comfortable, and the little one also; O our Father thou art trying thy servant with mercies, thou art saying unto him, take these precious souls and train them up for heaven, instruct them in all duty, pray for them and pray with them, shew them the way to the mercy seat, and daily accompany them thither. O God of the families of the earth, thou knowest how ardently I long to have him become eminently a man of prayer. I lay my petitions down at thy footstool, O hear and answer. Last sabbath we carried little Fanny home after she had been with us four or five days. She seems almost like an angel. So pure, so obedient, so tender hearted mild and gentle, blessed be God for all the lovely traits she exhibits. may they be increased till she rises to perfect holiness in heaven.

I ask also for the little boy the same spirit, he is also thy workmanship. Be pleased to fashion him into thy own image and make him thine own from his birth tomorrow we hope to meet around the table of our divine Lord. I had hoped that our youngest child would have been inclined at this time to join himself to the Lord in an everlasting covenant. Still he draws back, Allmighty and merciful God, extend to him thy grace, take him by the hand and encourage him to draw near to thee and let him feel no rest in his mind till he has chosen the good part, and testified to a surrounding world, his fixed resolution to become a firm and devoted servant of Jesus Christ. But while I am thus multiplying my requests to thee, let me not forget to praise thee, for thy preserving goodness for health preserved and restored, for ease and strength and all the variety of comforts which we constantly receive at thine hand, and the power of enjoyment, that we lie down and rise up, loaded with blessings and above all that we still enjoy the hopes of the gospel, may we bring to thee on the morrow, an offering holy acceptable, presented in the name and at the table of our glorified Lord. may he be present with us all and give us a taste of his salvation.

Oct. 5th Attended worship at N– all excepting Theodore– Mr Stearns preached from the two last verses of the gospel by Matthew– on infant baptism. Thanks to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, for another opportunity of honouring Christ at his table; while we are thus permitted to come near to him in his ordinances, how gloomy the view we are compelled to take of the members of our society. how few take a decided part in religion– how seldom is there a solitary individual seen joining himself to the Lord in an everlasting covenant O Lord arise and plead thy cause. compel them to come in that thy house may be filled–

Oct. 11th 1834 - To day my husband is sixty years of age; and I observe the morn- Sept 9th ing as usual. The question occurred to me, what call have I to do this. He is surely far before me in christian attainments, and is it not a little like presumption? my answer to this reasoning is this. My own deficiencies are great, and I need the influence which these exercises are calculated to exert. Another reason which urges is, that during the present year a very important decision will probably be made with respect to the education of our youngest child. - Feel-ing how much depends upon the associates of young people, my solicitude increases as the time approaches for his leaving home. and I improve every suitable occasion in earnestly imploring divine direction in this important matter. Another motive which should lead to humility and self-abasement, is, that we are both fast approaching the end of our earthly pilgrimage, and greatly need all those influences which may keep us from the evils, evils of ill temper and attachment to temporal things, to which increas-ing weakness of mind and body, necessarily lead. In view of all these interesting considerations and others that I cannot name, I desire to fall down before my heavenly Father, and pour out my desires and requests into his bosom, who has hitherto proved himself according to his word, a sin pardoning and covenant keeping God. -

Feby. 4th 1835 - Fifty six years have run their hasty rounds, since my Creator ushered me into the world. Blessed be his goodness in making me the child of parents who loved and feared him that in this way my earliest desires were after holiness, so that I cannot remember the time when I did not consider his favour the greatest good. I can well remember my childish fears of the second death, and have often in seeing the fools about the door, wished that I had been made a fool, that so I might have escaped eternal misery. Perhaps it was owing to this state of feeling, that I was generally very sober. My mother has told me, that I nev-er even when very young had such a relish for childish plays as is common among children, but would prefer being with her to any amusement. I mention this that it may awaken a deeper feeling of gratitude to my heavenly Father, who has ever had his eye upon me for good. - Until I was nineteen or twenty years old I had no comfort in religion; I was seeking and hoping for it -

Page 10th

But since that period I hope I have had some experience of its power to cheer and support. Within three years however, I have had more enjoyment, more hope of heaven more communion with the blessed, than ever before. For this let me praise Him who turneth the shadow of night into the morning. The time that remains to me must be short. May I be able to fill it up with duty. I would live every day as if it were to be my last. Thanks to God who has caused a light to shine over the dark waves of Jordan; and we hear the echo of that voice which said To him that overcometh will I give to sit with me in my throne even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer I have overcome the world. I have had tribulation I have not been without chastisement. Having past thro' the iron furnace, I feel assured that the same power which delivered me, can carry me thro' all the suffering he shall appoint for me; can give me the victory over the king of terrors, because the captain of our salvation hath himself destroyed him that had the power of death And now for this year on which I have now entered, I ask O my Father thy blessing; keep us from the evil and whether in life or death make us all thine thro' Jesus our great High Priest to whom be glory forever amen

Hadley June 25th 1835 This day is set apart by christians, who mourn over the sin of slavery, as a season of fasting and prayer, to be observed by religious societies, and by individuals who are willing to humble themselves for our national sins, and supplicate the mercy of God upon the wretched suffering, benighted slaves. I would also lift my voice in fervent prayer for the same object. tho' I cannot unite personally with those who observe this day, yet I know that he, who has commanded us not to appear unto men to fast, will notice the humble prayer of those who fast unto him even unto him. I rose early and retired to pour out my desires to him who has promised to answer those who agree as touching any thing that they shall ask. that thy will may be [illegible]

ark. I hope I had some freedom of access, during the morning I have endeavoured to impress more deeply upon my mind the obligation that lie upon me to exert myself in this cause. I feel that I ought to endeavour to form an anti-slavery society and if it is right I hope God will enable me to do it, to be forward in it, without any fear of the speech of people. Ought we not to obey God rather than men? The dealings of God with us of late should excite us to arise and trim our lamps, and no longer be among the foolish virgins, who were shut out from the marriage supper of the Lamb. I beseech thee O Father lead us in the way in which we should go. Help me again to implore thy blessing thro' Jesus our Saviour.

Feb. 7th Last Thursday I was fifty seven. I can hardly say "few and evil have been the days of the years of my life." The Author of my life has seen fit to lengthen out ~~its~~ ~~thread~~ thus far, and tho' I often wonder for what purpose I was brought into existence yet I would endeavour to devote it to his service. My only regret is that I do so little to please him. I would not ask with eager desire that my life may be long continued. The manner and the time of my departure, I would leave at thy disposal. But that I may honour thee O my Almighty friend, by the improvement, and employment, of all my time, talents, powers and faculties, in life death and eternity this I do most heartily and constantly desire.

The blessings of the past year it is impossible to enumerate unless I could number sands on the sea shore, or call the stars all by their names. Among these are repeated recovery from sickness in the members of our family tranquility and peace and the hope of heaven. I have resolved to resume the practice of making some little record on my days of peculiar devotion, hoping that it may more deeply impress on my heart, the important objects for which these seasons are observed. In this duty I ask of thee O my Father, thro' the intercession of Him whom thou always hearest, that thou wilt grant me thine assistance and blessing. If it may please thee, provide for me some labour which may promote the cause of peace truth and righteousness, so that when my earthly work shall be finished I may be permitted to join the great company, and all of us be again united in the perfect service and love of our God & Redeemer

March 17th 1838- I have been observing this day, on account of escaping observation, instead of tomorrow. Twenty five years ago I sought the Lord in my anguish, and he heard me, and granted desired relief. In reading the 138th ~~Ps~~ Psalm this morning I found that suited to the occasion. I would recollect the goodness of God to me and my dear son who was then born, and in view of all that thou hast done for us, call upon my soul and all that is within me to bless thy Holy name. And now in view of the present prospects and intentions in his case, I do most fervently beseech thee to provide for him a partner who shall love thee supremely - & who shall regard with a suitable indifference the pomps and vanities, of the world, with which she has been surrounded- O Father whatever thou deniest, O refuse not this my earnest prayer, that they may be the humble and devoted followers of Jesus Christ- - In his all-prevailing name I ask it.

April 11th 1838- I have been pleading for M- today- breathing forth the earnest desires of my heart, that she may become more indifferent to the allurements of the world- that she may be fed with the hidden manna, which alone can satisfy, and which if she partake of it plentifully, will lessen her desires after the perishing unsatisfying vanities of time. Bring back to her thoughts, the scenes that are past- the last sickness and death of her beloved sister- and help her to ask herself, O thou All pervading Spirit whether her glorified spirit would approve of wasting time in amusements which are at best unprofitable, and may be dangerous- O Father I would again bring her to thee in the arms of faith and prayer, twenty three years ago, she commenced a life which will never end- then thine arm brought me relief; may I recount thy mercies and devote all to thee- remember thy covenant, these precious souls have all received the mark in their foreheads- may the inward cleansing follow ~~and continue~~ to the outward washing and continue to operate till perfect purity shall be attained in heaven- thro' Jesus Christ

April 29th Last wednesday was an interesting occasion, rendered more so by the receipt of a letter from Edward that day- my thoughts were often rising to God in his behalf- may a prayer hearing God accept the service and answer my requests- I would thank God that he has enabled him to set up the family altar and bring his dependents to the mercy seat, and it may be to the knowledge of thyself

We went to see Helen and her little boy at noon, she is highly favoured - in herself and the child - I pray that this season of retirement, and rest from the cares of life may be employed by her, in forming new resolutions for future duty, and in pleading with earnestness - for the blessings of a covenant keeping God for herself and all hers. Last even=ing Edward came home, before our hour of family worship. how pleasant to meet and worship together here; but O how much more pure the satisfaction, when we shall find the number complete, in the upper temple; when we shall again meet those of our number who have passed on before us, and enjoy without fear of separation their holy society and that of all the holy and good of all ages and nations. The text this afternoon was in Psalms 42d. 11th. Hope the subject. O Father forgive the sins of this holy sabbath, prepare for all the duties and wants of this week, keep us in thy fear, raise our thoughts and hopes above the world - and let our conversation be in heaven, so that when death comes we may cheerfully commit our departing spirits into thine hands thro' our Lord Jesus Christ. Accompany thy word and all the means of instruction every where with thy divine blessing and let thy kingdom come and thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. -

Oct. 12th. We attended worship at N. excepting Mr. H- and Bethiea who stayed at home. - Mr Stearns' sermon was upon the Pharisee and publican - The forms of religion, are all useless with=out its power. even outward morality, may be used as a cloak for the wickedness of the heart - indeed it is to be feared that multitudes rest upon a fair outward deportment, the result of any thing but the love of God and duty, and thus delude themselves to their ruin. Edward came home last evening - how pleasant to unite together in prayer and praise. - Lord fit us to join the

great company, and meet our departed children and parents, and to become holy like them that we may be happy like them. Atnoon we again visited Helen, found her and the little one doing well, but had no opportunity of saying a word for religion. O my Father make this my son eminently a man of prayer. Is it too much to ask? — too much to ask of Him who delighteth in mercy no — I will ask and seek and knock — the powers of dark-ness shall never drive me from prayer. While reason & life remain, my desires shall ascend to the Father, of mercies, in behalf of those I love. Mr H — seems quite enlivened in the Bible cause. O may it continue and increase, untill he shall be willing to save from his own indulgence something to aid in the glorious work. Last Tuesday Charles brot over Mrs. Justin Clarke who stayed here and at brothers till yesterday afternoon. — Wednesday brothers family and Miss Hastings drank tea here. Since Eloisa left us, we have been rather driven by our work. I like to do all I can. but fear some things must be neglected. Yet if the Lord will he can easily provide and send us help. if there is any poor girl who wants to be trained up, who will be a help to us, and to whom we can do good, he can easily bring us together, and to him I commit this and all my concerns. — Since business and company has press- ing thots have been less heavenly. O my Father in the name of thy beloved Son, I implore the influences of the Holy Spirit to preserve me from deadness in duty from worldliness, and indifference. O come breathe upon my cold heart, and warm me with divine love. May thy kingdom come, and thy will be done in earth as in heaven

Oct. 19th All at home this morning because the weather was uns pleasant. This afternoon T. and G. went to the mill. This forenoon, I looked over some of the writings of our dear Whiting, his notices of dear Catherine's sickness and death

I love to look back upon the loveliness of their characters tho' it costs a pang when I remember their sufferings. I love to look ~~backward~~ forward to the period, when again united under the captain of our salvation, we shall serve him and never never sin. I love to think of the dear departed as even now perfected not lying in a long sleep, the spirit and the flesh alike inanimate, but fresh, vigorous, immortal, ever drinking full draughts of the pure river of the water of life. But my courage sinks, and sin presses heavily upon me. Twice within a week, a sharp rebuke has been drawn upon me by my imprudent, ungovernable tongue. What shall be done unto thee thou unruly member. I am covered with shame, what an example is set before those who are often reproved for the very same faults - but they are children, we aged professing christians - O what dishonour ~~do~~ we do to religion, and how are my thoughts occupied with these things when they ought to be engaged in praise and gratitude to God. Are we hoping to inhabit the realms of light and love, when we leave the body, and yet indulge such unholy tempers here? - I humble myself by denying the customary refreshment of supper. O Divine Spirit help me to have humility - and make me more indifferent to the passing events of life - Last thursday Mrs Norton and Mrs Hitchcock with Emily Porter, made us a visit. Saturday B - and I went to see aunt Dickinson. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me by thy free spirit.

Oct. 25th All at home again on account of the rain. Have been reading in Jay's evening exercises, saints rest, and guardian and monitor. Our dear Mary is about to leave us tomorrow for Geneva - quite unexpectedly. The Lord go with her, surround her by his protection, support her with his strength dwell in her heart by his spirit, guide her by his counsel, make her do and gain much good, and bring her home in peace and safety thro Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour to whom be ~~glory and~~ ~~honour~~ be renown amen.

Nov. 2d All gone to N— to worship excepting Theophilus Ben. and myself I have been writing a word of advice to Mary who I hope is now with her sister. The last week was crowded with labours and duties, but all was accomplished, Thou O God blessest the labour of our hands, thou carriest us out and bringest us in, in peace and thy constant visitation preserves our spirit— Our strength our reason, our health and friends, all are thine, and to thee would I consecrate all— I would so meditate on the shortness of life the certainty of death, and the dread realities of eternity as to apply my heart to wisdom. Undertaking as we do the labours of the household, without any assistance, I fear we shall lose our spirituality; that we shall have little time for reading, and thus our better part will be impoverish'd I have this concern also with him who is wise in counsel and excellent in working— whatever he gives I would thankfully enjoy, whatever burden he imposes, I desire to bear with patience— always remembering, that this is not our rest; with a sense of his favour, his pardon, and approbation what is there that can harm us?— For our friends our own flesh and blood, who have never yet given evidence of their attachment to Christ and his gospel— we must yet plead and agonise— for how can we bear to see the destruction of our kindred. One and another of my beloved children have been taken from their earthly course, arrested at the outset,— safely landed hope, when as yet they had scarcely set sail. So much the better, for better to depart and be with Christ. O may we who remain press on with redoubled ardour, and at length every one of us appear before thee together in the heavenly Zion.—

Nov. 9th I have again been permitted to unite in the public services of the sanctuary— verily it is good to be there, to hear the glad tidings of salvation, and to have our minds refreshed with the hopes of immortality, a sorrowless, sinless, immortality— for this Christ was born, laboured and taught, suffered and died and rose again. for this he pleads at the right hand of the Father. O wonderful plan of wonderful love truly this religion must be divine, for no finite mind would have devised & executed such purposes. The text in the morning in John, 15th 5th without me ye can do nothing. This afternoon the text was is not easily provoked.—

the practicability & importance of restraining our anger
This morning our minister noticed in his first prayer
the death Mr Williams, with much kind feeling. O when
shall our teachers be so divinely taught as to love
one another with a pure heart fervently –? hasten the
happy time O God of the spirits of all flesh. Last wednes=
=day Bethia and Theophilus went to Greenfield came home
Friday. Saturday had a letter from Mary informing
of her safe arrival. Tuesday evening William left us for
Boston, and Edward set out for New York – Another
week has passed and mercy, nothing but goodness &
mercy have followed us. What shall I render unto the
Lord for all his benefits? – when I look at my frailties
and sins I am confounded, and for a return suitable
for these favours, I can only say look upon the face of
thine anointed, and for his sake blot out my sins. –
strengthen and keep us all this week thro' life and death
and in eternity for Jesus sake amen. –

Nov. 16th Have again been permitted to hear the preached word – by our pastor –
In the morning, Because the carnal mind is enmity against God, for,
it is not subject to the law of God &c – a mind absorbed in the pursuit
of sensual and selfish gratifications is wholly at variance with
the government of God – This afternoon while we look not at the
things which are seen but at the things &c 2d Cor. 4th 18 – A most
solemn discourse O that God would make a saving and lasting
impression upon the minds of the hearers. went to Charles's at
noon, found they intend to have their child baptized at home.
where is their zeal for the honour of God and the institutions
of the gospel. O where is the spirit of Christ which we ought
to see in his followers?: O it grieves me to the heart to see
my own children ashamed of the cross. O the tremendous
import of these words, whosoever shall be ashamed &c – God
forbid that any of my children should come under this curse.

Nov. 23d Let me praise the Lord for what I have this day felt; tho'
rather straitened for time I have had some refreshing views of divine
things in the exercises of this sabbath. Heard Mr. Coleman
in the morning from these words, It is a small thing to be judged
of you &c – this afternoon – in the second epistle to Timothy partic=
=ularly, these words I am now ready to be offered &c – This week we

have the prospect of a day of thanksgiving - may a spirit of gratitude pervade the hearts of the people; let the people praise thee O Lord let all the people praise thee - and in the enjoyment of temporal mercies may we taste the nobler and richer blessings of heavenly grace. may we feed upon the hidden manna, the hopes and promises of the gospel, that food which Jesus has purchased and offered to his followers. - Had letters from William and Mary last week. blessed be God for all his mercies. -

Thanksgiving day - 4 oclock - I have been at home today all the family attended worship at N-n - Mr Stearns text was the first verse of the 12th chapter of Romans. I have had no time for reading, but in the stillness of my necessary labours I had much comfort; for wee Ben was not here to ask me questions, having gone to see his mo-ther - I was aware in the morning retirement to think of some of the multitude of blessings which have flowed in upon me the past year, and also upon my family and friends -

But ah! in vain my labring thought
Would count thy mercies &c -

Last evening Charles Helen Fanny and Edward drank tea & spent the evening here, Edward and Fanny stayed, Fanny went back this morning - Our family circle was small today at dinner - only seven - William in Boston, Mary & Elisabeth in Oswego Charles in N-n - Whiting and Catherine passed into the heavens having washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. - I have dreamed frequently of Catherine lately, and last night I dreamt of seeing Whiting, as he was in his playful youthful days. I love to dream of them - it brings no sadness it seems to elevate my thoughts, for the day following - not that I would place them in a higher station than the Lord my righteousness; O no all the hope I enjoy for them or myself springs from my belief of his gospel - truly Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega to the believer And now O Father forgive all that has been amiss in any of us this day, and accept the united homage of thy people - thro' Jesus our Saviour -

Nov. 30th We all went to hear Mr. Stearns today excepting Theodore. In the morning his text was in Matthew 6th latter part - Take no thought for the morrow &c - this afternoon [illegible]th Romans On making our fellow men our standard - but ye measuring yourselves by yourselves, & comparing yourselves among yourselves are not wise - An eclipse took place at the usual time of worship, and it was deferred till a quarter before three. Mr Stearns read the 40th chapter of Isaiah beginning at the 12th verse. - toward the close of his sermon this afternoon he earnestly entreated his hearers to seize the heavenly inheritance & to let go their hold of the world.

to go resolutely forward where Christ and conscience lead; should they find themselves among those who sacrifice conscience to inclination they have only to take up their march for a better world, & if their companions refuse to follow, why they must determine to pursue their way peaceably tho alone. At noon read in Saurin's sermons. This evening heard a sermon of Zays for saturday evening. I would bless and praise God for his favours to me this day: for all that I have heard and seen and felt of the power of divine truth. for opportunity of uniting with our pastor in the prayers and praises of the sanctuary. truly it is good to be there. The Lord loveth the gates of Zion. And he loves to meet his children and cheer them with his promises, and the anticipations of more full and complete communications of himself in the kingdom of his glory - Pardon O Father all the sins of me and mine the day past, give efficacy to thy word - prepare us for the duties of the week; the changes and sufferings of mortality and bring us all to the great company thro' grace that our saviour.

Du. 7th Another communion season - All went to N- excepting F- - and Ben the former has a heavy cold, was quite sick and feverish last Tuesday and wednesday, but by the divine favour is much better - the Lord truly is merciful to the evil and unthankful - This morning the text was in 1st Peter - whom having not seen we love - Christ under God is our best friend - and we should study his teaching and his character that we may learn how much we owe to him and what he requires of us. This afternoon after public worship, Charles and Helen had their little boy baptized - by the name of Charles Whiting. May he become as devout as holy and benevolent as his uncle whose name he has - but above all may he be created in Jesus Christ to holiness and good works - ~~O~~ that the parents may be excited to fidelity and zeal, may the be assisted and qualified to instruct these immortal beings put into their hands. especially O my Father, may their father be disposed to institute family worship, O suffer him not another day to withhold from these children this powerful means of good to their souls. When he told me that the baptism was to be attended at home, it grieved me to the heart, the tears started to my eyes - not that God regards the place. but I fear his reluctance to go with it into public, arises from a sinful fear of the jeers of the unbelieving and thoughtless - besides unthinking parents need to be reproved for their negligence of duty. they need the example of christians to rouse them - another thing, these little

nes are entitled to the prayers of the church, and they should not be denied this privilege - But so it is and I must submit - where is their zeal for the honour of God, where the self sacrificing spirit of the gospel? O my heart is pained within me, arise O God and shew thyself mighty in the midst of thy people. are they not fast asleep - our minister's ~~[illegible]~~ child is four or five months old, and has not yet been given to God in baptism. O Lord graciously awaken, purify and save thy people - for Jesus sake - and me also and mine. -

Dec. 14th Frederic and I went to N-n today - Mr. Stearns text was in Ezekiel 18th - 29th O house of Israel are not my ways equal, &c In the afternoon Matthew 25th chapter - 14th 15th On the improvement of talents - both sermons were full of instruction, and highly interesting - corresponding exactly with my ideas of duty and truth. I desire to thank God who is the author of all good purposes, and endeavours, that he has put it into the heart of our minister to appoint a time for meeting the young women of his society for religious purposes - I have been longing for some effort of this kind - may a blessing follow. -

Dec. 21st Theophilus Bethia Frederic and I went to N - Theodore gone to New Haven - Mr Stearns preached this morning from these words The Son of man is come not to destroy men's lives but to save them, On the Abolition of War. This afternoon from these words, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say to this mountain &c - On the encouragement, to make great efforts in this cause. This is the sabbath appointed by the Peace Society for ministers to address their people on this subject. And I would render my warmest thanks to God that he has inclined our minister to speak to us the sermons were both perfect in their kind - Praise the Lord O my soul - How wonderfully have my prayers been answered! O how encouraging are thy dealings to me O my Father. Two years ago I put into the hands of our minister two dollars that he might become a member of the S. for two years, since that time he has received & read the Calumet - and now here is the fruit - God does not forget our work and labour of love. The smallest effort we make for the cause of Christ will not be unblest, no it is laid up in heaven, and will come back encreased an hundred fold. Father of mercies and God of Peace - prosper

the labours of thy servant abundantly and give him many helpers in this glorious cause. I thank thee that my children are all enlisted in the cause of Peace Temperance, and Antislavery, help them to hold on stand up boldly in defence of their Master's cause. Last evening we heard of the death of our brother Huntington. Spirit of God bless the event to the salvation of all concerned - may the widow be comforted and prepared for her own departure - and the children all become the children of God. may we consider ourselves as fast hasting onward to our eternal home and so number our days, as to apply our hearts to wisdom.

Dec. 28th All but Theophilus and Benj went to N- our minister preached from Matthew 5th ye are the light of the world - communities societies, and individuals must all let their light shine - and the different sects, all help to illustrate and strengthen some portion of the church militant - This afternoon from Luke 12th 37th on watchfulness without vigilance all other means of improvement are useless - went to Charles's at noon. all well - goodness and mercy follow us all our days - give us O our Father the evening blessing grateful and obedient hearts and lives - follow with thy blessing all the instruction which has been given this day - and let thy kingdom come and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. -

Jan. 4th Frederic and I went to N- all the rest were at home. In the morning the text was in Ephesians 5th Redeeming the time because the days are evil. If it is a duty to redeem the time, we must inquire for what purpose time is given us.

1st We must be diligent in some useful employment which shall contribute to the supply of our bodily wants, and much of the time of one sex is necessarily occupied in labours for the benefit of the domestic circle.

2dly Heads of families should watch over their households, provide things needful for the body, warn, correct, instruct and encourage them, lead in the devotional exercises - and for these time must be saved and appropriated.

3dly Time must be saved for the improvement of the mind.

4thly We were not sent into the world to live for ourselves merely. We must have time for active benevolence

5thly The duties of religion are indispensable, a certain portion of our time must be devoted to God and his service, or all other employments are of little value. Another year has passed

with the rapidity of thott, and borne its account to the record-
-ing angel. We have been diligent in our duties or we have
neglected them. We have improved or wasted our precious
moments. If the latter the year is lost. It may be that
some have been forming and confirming habits, which
will increase and strengthen from year to year, untill the
end of life. We should be exhorted to spend our remaining
time in such a manner that when life shall end, we
may be recieved to the presence of our Saviour and the
right hand of God.
This afternoon the text was 6th Matthew, Our Father which
art in Heaven. God hears our prayers. The gospel seems
to teach this doctrine in a distinguishing manner- and
the peculiar characteristics of this paternal regard of God
to his rational offspring are tenderness, holiness and
constancy.- This has been the coldest weather we have
ever known. the thermometer, was ~~so~~ thirty degrees below
zero at sun rise. yet we went to meeting, and with
far less suffering than at some other times. indeed I
was most comfortable thro' the day. And wat was
best of all I had peace with God, and I trust holy &
delightful communion with Jesus, and all his followers
Mr. Whitmarsh came to me, and we interchanged the
kindest feelings and the joy of the Spirit- How
glorious will be the state where we shall enjoy the
society of all the good; the friends of God will all be
collected in one great company, and nothing admitted
which shall in the least degree mar their happiness
or pollute their praise. In the intermission read a ser-
-mon of Saurin's on these words after death the judgment
This evening heard a sermon read called the happy family
Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. O how
happy to be loved of Jesus. Tho' imperfect and sinful he
still loves sinners. for the desire to become perfect is
with him accounted perfection. I would now gratefully
acknowledge the multiplied mercies of God to me and mine
the past year. health ease friends peace of mind and all needful
good have been continued and bestowed. O let my future life be more
humble gratful and obedient- for Christ's sake-

Jan. 11th 1835 — The family are all gone to hear Mr. Payson, excepting myself. The morning from ten to eleven, I spent in prayer. I must hope that the Spirit helped my infirmities; thanks to the giver of all good, and the author of all right desires. My mind has been unusually occupied of late, with the miserable condition of those who are ignorant of the gospel; particularly with the privations and sufferings of the blacks in our country many of whom are in cruel bondage, of soul and body both, and others among us, who are treated as the offscouring of all things. I would not cease to lift up my voice in their behalf to him who heareth prayer. For the universal establishment of peace and the entire abolition of war, I would daily and constantly pray. For the spread of the gospel, the sanctification of the sabbath, the prevalence of purity, the prevention of swearing, and intemperance I would also unceasingly pray. But I find too little time. I endeavour to pray as I labour. like Nehemiah. With one hand hold the weapon, and with the other repair the waste places of Zion. But I am a poor workman, thanks to God we have to do with one who has said if there be first a willing mind we shall be accepted according to what we have and not according to what we have not.

The last week has been signalised by many outward mercies and I may say that my soul has been disposed to see the hand of God in all. Tho' greatly deficient in gratitude, still I can truly say, that to be able to honour God, to promote his kingdom, and imitate his beloved Son, would give me more solid comfort than any thing earthly.

Our son Edward has made us a new years present of a stove for the kitchen. It is indeed a great comfort to us. But I am not without my fears, lest I am consuming for my own use the property which might be expended in relieving the [illegible] sufferings of others. there is one consideration which is of some weight, the saving of fuel will be great. I pray that I may be directed to some course which shall testify my sense of the obligation I feel both to God and to my son. The liberal soul shall be made fat, he deviseth liberal things and by liberal things shall he stand. The benevolent heart bears its own treasure within itself — its reward is permanent. lasting. God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him. Praised be God for all that is lovely and good in our children

Jan. 18th 1835. I have been permitted with my son Frederic again to attend worship at N—n Mr. Stearns preached from 1st John, 4th 20th If a man say he love God and hateth his brother, he is a liar, &c— love to man is the foundation of love to God; children are to be taught to revere and love their parents, and friends and all: to put forth a strong affection; and as soon as they become capable of understanding spiritual things, they will be prepared to love their Father in heaven with renewed vigor. The tree of piety bearing immortal fruit, stands near the river of charity, it is watered by a thousand little rills which flow from parental and social affections till its branches reach to heaven. Last week ~~Wednesday~~ Tuesday we made a visit at Doct. Humphreys. I had long been hoping for a social visit there where heart meets heart, but as it usually turns out, when we are expecting much we find little. The Doct. was engaged till tea time, and we came away soon after. These are but the streams, the fountain is always full. Here let me come and I shall never be disappointed. Thursday called on Miss Edwards, found her sick in bed, but rejoiced to see me, she raised herself in bed and reached forward with a smile to take my hand. Lord raise her up from this sickness but above all lift upon her the light of thy countenance. Be pleased to bless thy word every where dispensed this day, and let it prosper in the thing whereto thou hast sent it. Had a letter from Mary all comfortable. Father of mercies let thy blessing ever rest upon this family, wherever we may be and be thou our portion in life death and eternity, thro' Jesus our great Intercessor amen.

Jan. 25th Today our family excepting Theodore Ben. and I, have gone to Hadley, O my Father thou knowest the delight I take in thy courts and that I would not willingly be absent. Mould me I pray thee into thy own image. Have been reading in the Saints Rest, Contemplations of the Saviour Clarke's Commentary &c— In thinking over

the treatment I have received from the pastor and church in this town, I do not feel prepared to make any advances towards uniting again with them. When persecuted and reviled, and censured, & excommunicated, I found a refuge in a church whose rules forbid not the believer in Jesus to approach his table, tho' in some things their views may differ. To this church I attatched myself at the same time that my children Bethia and Whiting died. Our beloved minister officiated at the funeral solemnities of our dear Catherine. There at that church I sought relief in sorrow, and while attending there I have received light and comfort. My Sabbaths for two or three years past have been signally happy. While thus in his earthly courts I felt that it was the gate of heaven. Divine truth has been the rejoicing of my heart, and I have felt that I had meat to eat that the world knows not of. — Wherever my lot may be cast this one thing I ask, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord, and not be shut away from his ordinances. While my husband is seeking to come back to this society I feel like a timid infant who hides the face in the mothers bosom. I flee unto thee O God and pour out my complaint into thy compassionate bosom.

Yesterday I had a most cheering view of the blessed state of my departed children. From this world of sin temptation and trial they have been removed. I groan daily under the weight of sin. But they are cloathed in garments of fine linen clean and white, which is the righteousness of the saints. No impurity can ever come near them, no inward struggle shall henceforth agitate their bosoms, the struggle between sin and holiness — the victory is complete, Christ has died and risen and ascended; so all his followers must — amen, even so.

Feb. 1st. We all went to N. today excepting Mr. H. and Ben. Were permitted to commemorate the dying love our Divine Lord and master. The text in the morning was in Luke 15th 10th Likewise I say unto you there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. He endeavoured to shew what views the angels have of mankind, of their importance, of their capacity for improvement, their endless duration of what views they have of sin as opposed to goodness, he then described the character of our Saviour, as one in whom the Spirit of God dwelt without measure, and in

the view of all these holy beings the conversion of one sin-
-ner must be matter of joy. This afternoon the text was in
1st Corinthians 2d — The natural man receiveth not &c.
I have had a feast today O may I render some service
worthy of the Divine acceptance, may the blessed truths
I have heard today dwell in my mind thro' the week,
and keep out the world and its vanities. and O let a blessing
follow the preaching every where. May thy kingdom come
and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Feb. 8th The day has been squally and cold, and we have all been
at home excepting Bethia and Theophilus who went to hear
Dr Brown in the morning. I have been reading in Dwight's
Theology — on the love to God, Reverence to God, Humility,
Resignation, the effect of benevolence on personal happiness.
In much that I have read today I have had the
satisfaction of finding my own feelings and views delin-
-eated, and thus I cannot but hope the Divine Spirit
has witnessed with my spirit that I am one of the
children of God. Blessed be his goodness for all the comfort
and peace which I have enjoyed. I do love the place where
his honour dwelleth, but even at home his spirit can
cheer and his truth enlighten. Little Fanny came home
with us last sabbath, and stayed till Friday. She seems
like an angel, so pure, so thoughtful, so fearful of doing
wrong, and so kind and affectionate to all. Gracious
Father I pray not that thou wouldst take her out of
the world but that thou wouldst keep her from the
evil. At night after our return, a strange trembling
affected my breast & stomach which affected my
breathing and pulse. As Marianne was here I said
nothing of it till she went away tho' it seemed to
produce an unusual perspiration. My pulse was
extremely irregular, a few strokes being very quick and
feeble, and then an entire cessation for one or two
seconds. Whether it was a nervous affection, or

or a disease in the organs of life I cannot determine
It seemed to be a warning, bringing death near. I endeav=
=oured to ask myself whether I was ready should this
be the summons, and was favoured with a strong hope
that my affections and desires were fixed upon those
pure and holy scenes which are presented to the eye of faith
Feb. 15th Frederic went over with me once more to N— and I have
again heard our dear minister hold forth the word of life — the text
in the morning was the second commandment. He gave some
information respecting idolatry, and enforced and urged obe=
=dience to the moral law from motives drawn from the
knowledge of a future retribution with which we are fa=
=voured. Went to Charles; at noon, all comfortable—
This afternoon the text was in Phillippians — yea doubtless
and I count all things but loss &c — on Christian zeal, a
most animating address — I wish I could remember and
practice all that it inculcated — heard last week
from Theodore Mary and William. all well. But I do
pity Theodore from my heart. His sabbath reduced down
to five hours. I tremble for the effect it may have
O my Father I come to thee with this burden. save
him I beseech thee from the evil. All events are at
thy disposal. Be pleased to deliver him from this
situation and place him where he may enjoy and
improve his sabbaths. O Father give efficacy to thy
word every where and make it the power of God and the
wisdom of God to the salvation of multitudes thro' Jesus C—
Feb. 22d. A goodly number of us attended worship at N—n— all except
ing Mr. H—. who has undertaken to bring the church and pastor
of Hadley to their duty. Our minister gave us in the morning
an explenation of the third commandment — he believes that
all oaths are sinful, instead of doing good they weaken
a sense of moral obligation. All such expressions as Lord
Christ gracious Father, mercy &c are wrong — these words are
used ~~the~~ in connexion with the most solemn and important

subjects, and should never be trifled with. He noticed some texts which seem to imply that Christ's teaching was at variance with that of Moses. as he allowed of oaths. But we are to consider that at the period when Moses lived, mankind, in the church, were as it were in their infancy - and the treatment which is proper for infants would be unsuitable for men who were come to maturity. In the afternoon the text was in Job, tenth chapter, Teach me and I will hold my peace. &c On the necessity of seeking divine teaching. We must examine for our=selves the revelation which God hath given us, and by careful study, and earnest prayer, become fully persuaded in our own minds. The Lord follow with a blessing all these truths and all the labours of his faithful servants. We had a letter from Theodore and Mary last week - T. says he has determined not to stay there longer than spring. for which I am thankful, and pray that he may not suffer from the privations of a relig=ious nature which he is called to endure. Last monday I made a visit to Martha and Mr. H. - Wednesday Bethia attended Mr. Stearns' Bible class - and I went after a little girl an orphan, who was recommended to me by Mrs. Lyman. She seems to be thus far a very pleasant active tractable child - grant O Father that I may feel all that kind regard for her which shall induce me to follow a right course with regard to her and the boy, and may they both become prepared to honour thee here and enjoy thee for ever. Pardon I beseech thee all the sins of me and mine make my dear children all holy and by thy various dispensations toward us, may we all be prepared to join our dear departed ones in heaven I have heard today that the subject of a Congress of nations is before the General Court. Thanks be to God hasten the time when there shall be glory to God in the highest on earth peace good will to men! -

March 1st Sabbath afternoon. Today our family excepting Ben. & I went to worship. Mr H— to hear Doctr. Brown. William at the Mills and the others at N—. In the forenoon I endeavoured to inform Ben. with regard to the ten commandments read with him and attended to his studies. but it is a discouraging employment so much that is vicious & depraved, and untractable, I think I never saw in one human being of his age. God alone can renew. we must plant, reprove instruct, and warn bear and forbear allure and threaten reward and punish. peradventure God will give him repentance. Friday our dear Theodore returned to us in safety. Thanks to God who hath brought him home in peace. William also came Tuesday mercies flow in upon us. all we want is gratitude & fidelity in the service of our Divine master. had a letter from Mary. all well. —Lord bless us all in life death & eternity—

March 8th Theophilus Theodore. Frederic and I with Ben. attended worship at N—. heard our beloved minister in the morning from 20th Exodus, the fourth commandment. It is a divine institution intended to perpetuate a knowledge of the creation of the world, and the Gods resting after the deliverance of the Hebrews from Egyptian bondage. Two facts are involved in this account of the sabbath, that God is our Creator and that we are bound to imitate and become like him. To Christians the sabbath points to a heavenly rest, and demands of us that we employ it it not merely as a rest from labour, but as a season in which to improve our selves in all those graces and virtues which will qualify us for the society of heaven. After the ~~resurr~~ resurrection of Christ believers continued to keep the jewish sabbath, and also celebrated the first day of the week by breaking bread, and religious worship in honour of the saviour, until as the other Mosaic observance were omitted, that of the jewish sabbath was also, and the Lord's day took its place. Our minister requested his hearers to examine whether they allowed all their dependents the enjoyment of the rest of the sabbath, and whether the ~~attendance~~ they required of them did not deprive them of those religious privileges which the sabbath is designed to secure to all. This afternoon the text was in 1st Peter 1st 22 — Seeing ye have purified your hearts by obeying the truth thro' ~~the~~ power of the Holy Spirit.

The way to be holy is to perform all duty. The greater effort we make to overcome our evil propensities, the the easier will it be to do it. When tempted to anger or envy, we must summon all the motives to subdue it, recollect the meekness of our divine master and the instructions of divine truth. thus we shall purify our hearts from these sins. And so on the other hand self denial practised to do good to others will prevent us from indulging hatred towards them, and benevolence operating to instruct. reform and save our fellow men will preserve us from all injustice toward them.. My feelings for a few days have been less lively and heavenly than usual. O Father leave me not to stupidity but breathe upon me that I may receive the Holy Spirit.

March 15th Mr H.- stayed at home with Ben, the rest of us all went to Non- Mr. Stearns preached in the morning from Amos 4th 12th- prepare to meet thy God- God meets us in his providences, and claims our confidence, he meets us in his mercies and demands our gratitude, he meets us in afflictions and bereavements, and bids us be still and know that he is God. He meets us in sickness and death and calls on us to be ready- It was a very solemn sermon God grant that it may make a lasting impression. Went to Charles's at noon a few minutes. Charles and Helen have both been unwell but are better.- O that these infirmities may remind them of their approaching change and excite them to live in constant expectation of it- This afternoon the text was in Acts-10th A devout man and one that feared God with all his house, on family religion. A timely sermon- the divine Spirit applies it to all- but let me beg that thou wilt bring it home my dear son to his duty in this respect.-

March 29th – This morning T. and J. went to hear Doct. Brown, he preached upon dishonesty in all its forms. text thou shalt not steal. This afternoon Mr H– is gone to the same place. Yesterday B– a and I went to make some calls – spent a few minutes with Mrs. Holbrook. Poor woman, she seems sinking into the grave under the hidings of her father's face. It is enough to melt the hardest heart, to see her and hear her complaints. She has known how to pray, and thot she had tasted that the Lord is gracious but her evidences are all obscured – she feels herself to be so wicked that she cannot hope for mercy. I sent her this morning Baxter's saints Rest, and wrote off some encouraging texts of scripture and sent likewise – but all will be in vain, O God without thy blessing and without the intercession of Him, whom thou hearest always. I visited her three weeks ago, and have since thot much about her; have endeavoured to plead for her at the mercy seat day and night. I have a strong hope that she is a child of God; and if so this fiery furnace will consume the dross, and fit her for the master's use. Be it so – Father in Heaven! – and may all concerned profit by this solemn lesson. The week past I had a severe conflict – evil dispositions seemed to predominate, and I could not do the things that I would. This boy which we have undertaken to bring up baffles all my skill. The task of teaching, governing, and forming him to good habits, chiefly devolves on me – a poor weak sinful creature, wholly insufficient for these things. But the Saviour is pleased to say "my strength is made perfect in weakness." If I am ever made instrumental of good to any it will abundantly shew the power and goodness of God. and may his name have all the praise. Read some passages in Hannah More's journal. The feelings she expresses, and the exercises of mind which she describes I am happy to find correspond very nearly with my own. What a privilege to be able to be so extensively useful, surely she will shine in heaven a star of the first magnitude. She says she finds an encreasing disposition to employ her thots in ~~times~~ of silence and solitude in prayer and religious meditation – what a privilege is this. I have endeavoured to instruct Susan & Ben. last night and today – God alone can make it effectual – In the course of the present month I denied myself the common indulgence at breakfast, and made special supplications for each

of my children, as their different birth days occurred - I dont feel satisfied with prayer merely - fasting is encouraged in the scriptures, and our Saviour says when the bridegroom shall be taken away then shall ye fast in those days feeling that I and mine are in a state of trial and temptation, I would follow the steps of the faithful tho' at a humble distance. I began this exercise for the present year with my own birthday. The present month on the 16th was Theodore's which I also attended to in the usual manner, and Susan's the 25th. I think I shall not write on each occasion, but would rather spend more time in seeking at the throne of grace the blessing of the new and everlasting covenant

April 5th We have been permitted again to meet at the Lords table, and partake of the memorials of his dying love. Our minister preached in the morning from these words 6th chapter Ephesians, Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. This afternoon Thy kingdom come. While hearing religious instruction I seem to drink in every word, but when the sound is past, the ideas also vanish; & I am sick of this stupidity. Rouse me O divine Spirit, and revive within me the vivid impressions of thy truth. O blessed state when we shall be all activity and zeal in the service of our master when we shall no more complain of dullness, and wandering thoughts, but we shall see as we are seen and know as we are known. Last evening had a letter from Mary - poor girl she dwells in a house of clay - and often it seems feeble and tottering - If it please thee spare her a little longer and give us yet to serve thee in the land of the living - Grant O Father that we may be assisted this week to serve thee more patiently diligently and successfully and may another sabbath find us nearer to heaven to our Saviour and our God. Prepare thy people to keep such a fast as thou hast chosen, and with thou accept our services for Jesus sake, to whom be glory and dominion thanksgiving and praise forever and ever. — amen —

April 12th Theodore Frederic and I with Susan went to N— Mr. Fessenden preached from 2d Peter, 3d 18th In the morning - grow in grace - every moment has its particular duty, and in order that the work of improvement should go on, it must be constant steady - the growth of vegetables is all slow - of some things scarcely perceptible, so it is with the christian character, but we must watch our progress, with great vigilance - If we do not make improvement, the fault is our own - motives and encouragements are abundant, both from Revelation and the dispensations of Divine Providence - may we take heed how we hear. Went to Charles's at noon - all well Bethia is making a visit there. This afternoon 4th chapter of Ephesians endeavouring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace Had letters from Mary last night all comfortable - have had a dull day, but have felt life enough to be humbled for my deadness. I seek refuge in thy bosom O my Father, save me from these evil thoughts and vain imaginations - fix my affections and desires more entirely on thy self and the things of thy kingdom - forgive and bless us all for Christ's sake amen

April 19th I have been again permitted to attend worship at N—n with Theodore Frederic Susan and Ben. Mr. Stearns gave a sermon on the sixth commandment - in which he advocated the abolition of capital punishment, and inculcated love and kindness to all our brethren of the human family - went to Charles before the afternoon service. all well, B— intends staying another week - This afternoon the text was Occupy till I come - illustrating some of the various ways in which we should employ and improve the talents put into our hands - O that the Divine Spirit might apply it to the hearts and consciences of the hearers, had quite a full meeting but not attracted by the gospel sound - the sound of the organ played by a skillful hand can do more to call people together, than the news of salvation for perishing sinners - O when shall these dry bones live! O Holy Spirit breathe into us all, the breath of life thro' Jesus Christ to whom be glory and praise forever amen -

April 26th. Theodore went with me to N— today — Mr Flowmer preached in the morning from Proverbs 3d. 4th. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not to thine own understanding. This afternoon 1st Corinthians, 2d chapter 14th verse, The natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God for they are foolishness unto him neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned. a very solemn sermon close, and with an application — O Divine Spirit, make it effectual to the good of many souls — can these dry bones live? — Lord God thou knowest. Shall thy word return to thee void? — rather let it accomplish the thing whereto thou hast sent it. And not only here but every where let Jesus see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied — Look in mercy on my children, I travail in birth for them untill Christ be formed within them; preserve them from the dangers to which they may be exposed. sins I mean, for there is no evil so great as sin — O keep us all by thy mighty power, thro faith unto salvation. Go with us to all the duties of this week, and fit us to bear and do all thy will here, that we may at length be carried by angels to thy kingdom above thro' Jesus Christ our Lord amen

May 3d. I have again attended worship at N— with T—e — heard Mr. Whitman, from Billerica — an agent for the Unitarian association. In the morning his text was in Phillippians 4th 13th I can do all things thro' Christ who strengtheneth me. Christians are required to endure the trials, meet the sufferings and perform the duties of life in a peculiar manner, with a christ like temper, and for this purpose they must acquaint themselves more fully and perfectly with the instructions and character, the life and death of their great master. It is by frequent solemn meditation upon upon this blessed gospel, and in the use of all appointed means such as the Lord's supper, public worship &c — that we are to become strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. This afternoon he laid before the people, the plan and operation of the U. A. — answered objections and solicited the cooperation of christians to encrease its funds — William and Theophilus walked over at noon the latter was much interested in his observations, and intends taking the tracts for a year. Bethia walked to hear Doct. Brown — she returned from N— last monday. Mr H— gone to Vernon — O hear my request that thou wilt give success to thy preached word every where and fill the world with thy glory for Christs sake —

May 10th 1835. Sabbath day - I have had today the privilege of hearing, with
my six sons, our dear former pastor, Mr. Hall. The text in the
morning was in Malachi, 1st chapter, 8th verse. and if ye offer the
blind for sacrifice &c - We all profess to believe that we ought to
honour God with first and fairest and best. but our practice
is strangely discordant. even the most distinguished for piety
are deficient - but the great mass of mankind are devoted
to their own pursuits and dedicate their first and their
best to any thing rather than their maker. And when worn
out with sensual indulgence, incapable of receiving satisfac
-tion from worldly objects, or when arrested in the midst of
life and laid upon beds of pain and death, they then offer
to God that which nothing else will accept. O ungrateful
stupid vile monsters!. It was a most powerful sermon
I then prayed and I now pray that the effect may be
great and lasting upon those who heard it. This afternoon
Quench not the Spirit. I look to thee O Father that the
holy Spirit may apply these sermons with power to
all who heard them - and let thy servant have some seals
of his ministry even among our stupid people. for Jesus sake.

May 17th. Last evening Mr. Colman and his son from Deerfield, called on us,
and lodged, he was going to preach for Mr. Stearns. Our dear Bethia
is quite unwell today, not able to sit up. Pain in her back and
some fever. Brought on by a cold or over exertion or perhaps both.
I have divided my time between secret devotion, attention to her by
reading &c - and teaching the S—n, and B—n - Have been reading
Channing's sermon before the Fraternity of churches on the duty
of giving the ignorant moral and religious instruction. Last
evening had a letter from Mary. she thinks of returning soon.
May the Lord guide her, and protect her on her way, and give us
to meet in peace. We have been greatly blest of late. Health &
strength and ease, have been afforded: we have been permitted
to rise up and lie down free from anxiety. I pray that we
may not forget the sorrows thro' which we have been passing
nor the dear children who have gone into the eternal world before
us. nor the obligations which lie upon us to be more watchful
and heavenly minded, more weaned from this world, and more zealous
to lay up a treasure in heaven. May every day find us more
deeply impressed with a sense of the comparative insignificance
of earthly good - and of the exceeding and eternal weight of glory which awaits
believers. Restore thine hand maid to health, bless the word dispensed, and let
thy kingdom come and will be done thro' Jesus Christ our Lord - amen -

June 28th Since the last record, what sickness, anxiety, and pain have we been called to endure! Our dear Bethia was first seized with a fever and the Varioloid which for a few days rendered her case truly alarming. In less than a week the violence of the symptoms abated and she became somewhat comfortable, tho' in a settled fever – thus she continued ~~nearly two~~ more than a week, when Theodore was attacked with Varioloid, quite violently, and at nearly the same time, I was threatened with a fever, and laid by – trying indeed it was; I had been the chief nurse day and night of our dear B – and what could now be done. Our heavenly Father takes care of the sparrows, and are not his children of more value than many sparrows? – Just at this time our cousin Sarah came home from N– – her heart was touched with pity, and she remained with us day and night for two weeks. Theodore's sickness and mine had a very injurious effect upon B–a– and for several days her situation was distressing and alarming. *Edward was with us to attend to Theodore much of the time for several days and nights, William also who was our Physician spent much time here. In a few days Theodore began to amend, and my feverish symptoms abated, but not with either of us, till we had very powerful remedies applied. Bethia lingered many days about the same; but at length her fever left her, and strength very slowly returned. For two weeks past we have all been gaining fast, and today we have been to the house of God, to present our thank offering in the presence of all the people. We may well inquire what shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits? – may it be our earnest prayer that these visitations may not be lost upon us. May thy holy Spirit teach us how to profit, and strengthen us to do so. I would mention with gratitude that while I was most unwell, I had no fears of death, my mind seemed to be calm and resting in God for myself and my children. I would notice how kindly our heavenly Father provi-

Edward Theodore owes him for his care and kindness and attention
* for our sake, and may he never be without friends in trouble

help for us in the kitchen, and indeed ordered every thing for us in the best possible manner. Our dear Mary too who had been gone all winter, came in the time of our greatest need. Thus truly may we say, goodness and mercy have followed us all our days— Three of us have been brought low and raised up again; how earnestly do I pray that the things of time may not usurp the place in our hearts which belongs to God and Christ and heaven. For me little of life remains. But I feel it to be of little importance how much it may be. To have done the task assigned, to have been about our Father's business, and when our Lord comes to be found watching, this is what we want, and to this may all our desires and efforts tend. Last Thursday our son Charles and his wife and little ones, had prepared to set out on a journey to Boston. In the morning little Charles was badly burn't, by falling into the fire on his face and hands, but not so bad it might have been, O so the Lord is merciful, let this providence be a salutary lesson, to teach them submission, gratitude, and preparation for all the trials of life. remembering that it is the promise of our blessed master, in the world ye shall have tribulation. O that they might become more heavenly, and holy, more watchful and prayerful, that parents and children may at length find a home in heaven.

Our minister preached from John, this morning In the world ye shall have tribulation &c— this afternoon Luke 2d chapter— wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?— particularly to the young. May the Spirit apply the truth every where to the good of souls— thro' Jesus Christ—

July 6th Theodore Frederic Susan, and I have been to M— our good minister preached in the morning from Colossians 3d 17th Whatsoever ye do in word or deed &c— The import of these words is that we must act under the influence of the religion of Christ. Nominal Christians may act from other motives than obedience to Christ, but the sincere

followers of Jesus are governed by a supreme regard to his authority and will. He does not when any duty presents itself for him to do, stop to inquire whether it will injure his worldly interest, or even whether it may not endanger his safety or his life; his master has never promised him exemptions from suffering in the present state, nor from death even; but if faithful into death he has promised him peace and joy in the life to come; and his concern is to follow in the way of his commands. When therefore the true disciple is asked by his worldly companions, why he does this duty, or why he abstains from that sin, he will not be ashamed to say, that he does it ~~for~~ in obedience to the instructions of his ~~master~~, whose law is his rule, and who came from heaven to shew us the Father, to do his will, & to purify to himself a peculiar people zealous of good works. In the prospect of any affliction the christian will not be discouraged, looking to his master, he is strengthened. The faith on which his feet rest, is fix'd on a foundation, which will never fail him. Is he assailed by the tongue of calumny? he remembers him who when he was reviled reviled not again, and instead of rendering evil for evil, he will improve the first opportunity to do a kindness in return for an injury.

This afternoon the text was in 2d Corinthians, 4th chapter 18th verse, While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen, &c. The things of time and those of eternity were very happily contrast-ed, by a variety of illustrations, calculated to impress most solemnly, the minds of the hearers. A spirit of grace and mercy, move upon the hearts of that people. Their faith slumbers if they have any, teach them before it is too late, the infinite value of the present state, ~~that they may~~ ~~even here~~ as connected with the future and that they may even here with one hand take hold of eternity. ~~for~~ [illegible]

July 12th. Theophilus Frederic & Ben, have been to N— with me, heard Mr Colman preach in the morning from Matthew 22d 37th. He recited many passages from different parts of the bible to prove that the design and effect of the religion of the gospel is ~~to~~ make mankind holy and happy. And the only

answer which is necessary to be given to the cavils of unbeliev=
=ers and scoffers, is to point them to the condition of mankind wherever the
instructions of Christ have been most strictly adhered to.
were the inhabitants of this world to become the devoted
servants and followers of Jesus, our globe would be a paradise.
This afternoon the text was in Hebrews 12th 1st. Let us
lay aside every weight and the sin &c — The allusions
which are made by the apostle so often in his letters, to
the peculiar customs and manners of the age and
places in which he lived, are a strong argument
in favour of the truth of these writings. They are
strikingly beautiful in themselves. In the text the
figure is taken from the races which were common at
that time, where multitudes were frequently assembled
to witness such a display of strength and agility, and
to see the successful combatant rewarded with the
crown of victory. But how insignificant are the motives
to exertion in this case, compared with those which should
influence the christian in his struggle for the conquest
over sin and temptation. Yesterday was five years
since Mrs. Phelps quit the present scene, and twenty
four years since our dear Theophilus was intro=
=duced to this scene of things. He has been like all the
rest, the child of many prayers, and much anxious
thot. I must hope that the same gracious Being
who has given me the earnest desires for the sal=
=vation of my children, will eventually purify from
this dear family a peculiar people zealous of good
works. Let me look into my own heart, and enquire
into the state of my own feelings. Have I not been losing
ground; amidst the great and wonderful mercies which
have been vouchsafed to us, as a family, does my heart
return any suitable degree of gratitude and love? — I
blush and am ashamed at my worldliness, O my Father
assist me to hold delightful communion again with
thee and may I and all mine, thy thing now and forever
thro' Jesus Christ our Lord —

July 19th We have a continuance of health, and our two sons and two daughters have gone to N— to attend worship— Frederic and Ben. went to the Mills this morning, Susan this afternoon. I have spent some time in teaching S— in the catechism. Have also been trying to revive my impressions of heavenly things by reading Owen on Spiritual mindedness. It is quite time to make greater efforts, that my thots may be more occupied with heavenly subjects— Lord assist me in this blessed work. Last Tuesday I dined with Mrs. Hitchcock, and drank tea at Mrs. Cooliges with Mr. H— had much conversation on religious subjects at both places; do not our hearts burn within us while we talk of Jesus & heaven, of the spirits of just men made perfect, and of God the judge of all? Thursday Mrs. H spent the day with us. She is quite feeble. Our stay on earth cannot be long. Thanks to God, the subject of our departure, has ceased to be alarming; This world has afforded to us nearly all that it has to give These bodies are wearing out, they will soon be laid aside, to be fashioned like Christs glorious body. But the spirit cannot die. These spirits came from God, and they must by the discipline of this life, be refined and fitted for the pure and holy services of heaven. Let this be our daily work, and may the Divine Spirit sanctify us thro'out, in spirit soul and body, thro the Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom be glory and dominion forever.

July 26th. I have been to N— today with Theophilus Theodore, Mary, and Frederic. Heard an episcopal minister preach all day upon doing good, the exercise of love. He told us that when the mind become alive to spiritual objects, it finds that God tho' the highest object of his regard, is not benefitted by its services, it then turns to the creatures he has made, and endeavours to do good to them. And our blessed Saviour has declared that inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me. I have passed a stupid sleepy sabbath. What is there in such services or such feelings that can be acceptable to him who searches the heart, and requires the first and best of our affections? And yet, O Father I can appeal to thee that if I love ~~not~~ thee and thy kingdom and thy Son I know not what I love. I turn away with disgust from the things of time, and yet my tho'ts are constantly engrossed with them. Holy Spirit come again into this forsaken soul, and fill it with delightful thoughts of thee and things heavenly. Wrote to Mrs. Fisher last week. B— and M— made some calls also. yesterday Charles and his family came home from Boston, dined and drank tea with us. The Lord impress their hearts with a deep sense of their obligations and make us all more entirely thine for Christ's sake—

August 2d. The sacrament of the Lord's supper was administered, and all our family, excepting Mr. H— who is at N— Salem, attended. I desire to render heartfelt thanks to God, that I have been permitted to see our youngest child make a public profession of his faith in Christ, and his determination, to be his friend and follower. As our children are all members of the visible church of Christ, I offer my fervent requests, that they may all be vitally united to him by a living faith, that they may not only call him master and Lord, but do the things which he commands.– Last Tuesday was three years since our dear Whiting left us; and Mr H. noticed it in the prayer evening and morning very suitably, ~~and~~ I had endeavored to observe the day with reference to that event, and also as the same day of the month on which Frederic was born, tho' not the same month. I observed it at this time because it was omitted at the proper time. This also is the season when our dear suffering Catherine was wasting away with the distressing fever which terminated her mortal existence. I have sometimes wondered why a child so lovely, should be so afflicted. But was not our Saviour holy harmless and undefiled and yet he was made perfect thro' suffering, that he might bring many sons and daughters unto glory. And is it unreasonable to suppose that the sickness and death of this dear child has been the means of spiritual good to the surviving members of the family?– If so how sweet are the fruits, bro't forth by these buds of bitterness and sorrow!– Our minister welcomed very affectionately to our communion, this youthful member. He is indeed young a little over sixteen. But what better protection can he have against the temptations of the world the flesh and the devil, than a union with the family of the Son of God. May the Holy Spirit form within him the image of Christ; and prepare him to preach to lost sinners ~~the [illegible]~~ a crucified and risen Saviour.

Mr Stearns preached in the morning from Galatians, 4th 19th Untill Christ be formed within you. This afternoon the subject was the retributions of eternity taken from the parable of the talents, and some other similar passages. Author of all spiritual comfort, I again entreat thee to scatter the shades which seem to begather-ing around my spiritual horizon. and drive from my thots the things of earth and sense, that heavenly things may become the constant subject of my meditations and desires– Hear me I pray thee and bless all my dear ones thro' Jesus our Saviour

August 9th 1835 At the return of this season, made solemn and interesting, by the sickness and death of two of our beloved children, my thots revert to those scenes of suffering and anxiety. The images of these loved ones rise to my view, and I bless God not only for their lovely characters, but for their death. O yes! Should I not rejoice that the days of their mourn=ing are ended? that they have pass'd thro' Jordan and entered the heavenly rest? that they now hunger no more, neither thirst any more, & all tears are wiped from their eyes, They are also clothed in fine linnen clean and white, which is the righteousness of the saints. They have joined the glorious company of the redeemed, and are employed in those holy and sublime services, which constitute the felicity of heaven! O! Father grant that we may all become followers of them, who thro' faith and patience in=herit the promises. And may we so learn to serve and love our God and Saviour here, that the worship of heaven begin even on earth. Bethia Theophilus, Frederic and I, went to N. Mr S. preach'd from Matth 6th Our Father &c. The peculiar characteristics of God's regard for mankind, are tenderness, holiness, and constancy. and tho' his regard is so strong, yet he will not bestow heaven upon us as a parent gives a toy to his child, but it is to character, formed by diligent and persevering effort, that the award is given. This afternoon Micah 2 Arise ye and depart, this is not your rest. The soul of man is never at rest here, even in the most prosperous circumstances we find too that these very afflictions which we so much dread, are necessary means to prepare us for a heavenly rest. Thursday B. M. Theodore and I went to Whately with their cousins. Friday Mrs. Hopkins, and Miss Thompson drank tea here. The celebrated Miss Martineau was at our church this morning. I regret that she has not moral courage enough to enable her to refuse to see company on the sabbath. I have resolved to remember in my prayers every day a female who sat behind me today. also the last monday evening in every month, to ~~pray~~ in union with the concert, for the slaves, and engage my children also to do the same. Strengthen me O thou with whom is the residue of the Spirit to perform these resolutions that my life may not be so entire a blank. Hear and answer and forgive and bless us all thro' Jesus our Saviour amen

Hadley August 16th 1835 — Yesterday was five years since our [illegible] Catharine was taken from us; last evening at family worship we sung a hymn, composed by our dear Whiting on her birth-day — and in the prayer we were reminded that tho' the heart which dictated it, had ceased to beat, the same spirit still exists, and we may hope again to enjoy the society of these ~~of those~~ ones just made perfect in the presence of God and the Lamb, and of the Holy angels. I have today been today reviving in my memory the scenes of C.'s sickness and death, by reading an account of them written by G. W. after her death. How vividly does it present to us these distressing circumstances. And it is good to go to the house of mourning. When the heart is softened by grief it more readily receives the impressions of heavenly wisdom. I would cherish in a fond remembrance, the loved images of those whose countenances I must never again behold and whose voices I must no more hear. But what do I say? — "If Jesus died and rose again, even them also who sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." We shall not awake to inaction and indolence. Our rising will be to more holy and sublime intercourse. Even now by faith we can enjoy this intercourse. The apostle says we are come to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first born. Every passing year brings us nearer to this pure peaceful and joyous meeting — and tho' we know not ~~the~~ mode in which spiritual beings hold communion with each other, we cannot doubt the fact. And every day ought to witness our meditations on these animating and glorious scenes. It is raining. Mr. H — Theophilus and F — went to N Hadley this morning. Theodore to the Mills. This afternoon he with B — and M. have gone to N —. Last Tuesday we had a call from Mrs. Austin, and Charles his wife and children dined and drank tea with us. The day after our children had a few friends to visit them. Last monday B. and I went to the mills, to circulate the petition for the Abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia.

August 23d Some of us have been to N — n. and heard Doct. Thayer of Lancaster. His text in the morning was in Mark 13th 37th And what I say unto you, I say unto all, watch. This afternoon Luke 6th 12th — And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. O my Father will not this truth which thou hast caused thy servant to preach to us today, be quick and powerful? — shall it not melt the hearts of the thoughtless and stupid? — There can be no christianity without stated constant fervent prayer. Impress this idea deeply upon the minds of all who heard it. especially I pray that all my dear children may feel the indispensable necessity of holding communion with thee, and in the performance of this duty become strengthened to every good word and work

August 30th I have heard the gospel from the lips of Mr. May, who supplied for Mr. Stearns — in the morning the text was in Titus, but speak thou the things which become sound doctrine; this sound doctrine was no particular truth or truths, but all practical godliness — this afternoon the text was in Hebrews 12th But consider him who endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. — Jesus was divinely supported, and his followers have the promise of the same support if faithful in the use of all appointed means. Yesterday Mr. Williams and his

daughter arrived. She was named for me, and I have invited her
to stay with us one term and attend school at the Academy, —
may the season be blessed to her, for her improvement in
useful knowledge, and christian excellence. Help me O Father
to exert a holy influence over her, and in all respects be kind
faithful and affectionately. Bethia went to N—n last Thursday
to stay two or three weeks. Tuesday Charles and Helen, came over
before dinner, in the afternoon went to Amherst, with our
family to attend hear the address delivered by Mr Everett — all
highly delighted. — Friday Mr. H— and I went to Mr. Gaylord
to see Mrs. Austin. drank tea, made a very pleasant acquain-
tance with Mrs. Gaylord. — called also at Mr. Smiths, and Mrs
Coolidge, at each place, had some religious conversation, Lord
let it not be in vain. — God of grace forgive the sins of our
Holy things, and help us all to serve thee better in time
to come. I would gratefully acknowledge the goodness of God
during the week past, in giving so much spirituality of
mind. O my Father let thy kingdom come more and more in
my heart, the hearts of my family, and in the hearts of all
mankind, thro' Jesus our Redeemer, to whom be glory forever amen.
Sept. 6th I am at home today alone, excepting having Ben's company in
the morning, and Susan's this afternoon. Spent an hour each
part of the day in endeavouring to instruct them. Ben. is much
more passionate and mischievous, but learns much easier than
Susan. It is my daily prayer that I may be assisted so to train
them up, as that they may serve their maker here and be
fitted to enjoy him forever. Last week was much of it
taken up with company. Friday Miss Phelps of Westfield
came to stay with us a few days; in the afternoon Mrs.
Gaylord called with Mrs. Dudley Smith, also Mrs. Coolidge with
Doct. Lord and wife. Wednesday Mrs. Thompson and Miss Tho
called. Tuesday Mrs. Whitmarsh and her mother drank tea
with us. Mary has been suffering with her side since
Tuesday night. — Is better, gone to N—n. Last evening our
dear, Edward returned, from Halifax, having been absent six
weeks, and travelled fifteen hundred miles. — I began to feel
apprehensive, from not receiving a letter for two or three
weeks, but the very day my anxiety began, a letter came
informing us of his safety. How true have I found the
promise frequently, while they are yet speaking I will
hear. Thanks to God, my anxiety is not chiefly for the tempo-
-ral welfare of my children, and what gratitude do I owe
for the evidence which I have that they have all of them
a regard to God and his approbation. Help me O my Father
to perform more faithfully the duties of my station, that I and mine
may at length meet and rejoice in thy pure and holy presence
forever. Bless all the means of instruction which have been this day
used, and let the kingdoms of this world, speedily become the kingdom
of our Lord and of his Christ. —

Sept. 13 I have again been allowed to attend public worship at N.— heard Mr. Noyes in the morning from these words, Secret things belong unto the Lord our God. This afternoon the text was in Ecclesiastes, 8th 11th because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily &c.— May the Spirit of God seal instruction to the hearts of many who heard the word, both among us and elsewhere. I would now make mention of the goodness of God to us the past week. Tuesday Theophilus was taken sick with head ache and pain in his back and stomach and seemed threatened with a settled fever. his brother was sent for and the means used seemed wonderfully blessed; that night and the next day my poor nerves were tried; and I was constantly striving to brace myself up to endure the worst. earnestly praying for support, and resignation. And that God who is so often better to us than our fears, granted relief beyond even our expectations. He is now able to be about with us. My most earnest prayer thro' this visitation has been, that it might be a benefit to his soul and the souls of us all; and this is still my prayer. O my Father let him not suffer without thy blessing to accompany the trial. In the business and cares of life I am obliged to give much thot to these objects. But how sweet to find a little season of retirement and throw myself at the feet of Infinite power, or into the arms of Infinite compassion. As the magnetic needle ever turns to the pole, so does my heart turn from earthly pursuits, to hold communion with the Eternal One. I have greatly desired of late to have some more realizing conceptions of his Being and perfections. Let me not seek in vain.

Sept. 20th Another week has passed in health and ease; we have laid us down at night and arisen in the morning, in a state of tranquility. And what is best of all, our hopes of heaven have not been obscured. Monday Mr Harding and wife, and Mr Smith of Warwick came to meet the Association; Mr Smith preached in the evening from these words I think, I am the light of the world.— next morning William was examined and licensed to preach; Tuesday evening Mr. H. and I visited at Col. Porter's; met Deacon Jacob Smith and wife, and Mrs. Phelps and Miss Hastings. Had a very pleasing conversation with Mrs. Smith on religious subjects. Thursday we had friends to visit us; among the rest Mrs. Sabin and Caroline D—n walked up early and we had a very interesting conversation before the other guests arrived. Friday William and Edward drank tea with us, the latter intends starting for Halifax tomorrow. Aunt Williams closed her earthly course last sabbath. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. She outlived her eye sight and memory, but her love to God and her Saviour never failed. may we all strive to be followers of them who thro' faith and patience inherit the promises. The rain ~~has~~ kept us all at home in the morning. This afternoon Theodore and F— went to the mills. ~~Last Friday~~ I brought the circumstances of William and Edward before our heavenly Father, with unusual solemnity. William is rather doubtful with regard to the course which he ought to follow, and Edward is engaged in a speculation, which he thinks will be profitable. My prayer to God is that they may be guided by unerring wisdom; that no worldly gain may ensnare their souls— far better that poverty be their portion.

Oct. 4th To the praise of divine goodness I would now make a record of the events of the last fortnight. Monday after dinner Mr. H— Theophilus, Frederic, and I, left home for Lebanon lodged at Springfield that night, reached L— the next night found friends generally well; Mr. Potter's family in trouble having buried a lovely daughter recently, and not having that evidence of her love to God and Christ which they wished, & how forcibly are we warned against this indifference, and negligence with regard to conversing with our near friends upon religious subjects. Parents should not rest easy till they have good evidence that their children are the friends of God. And even then they cannot rest. They must always in this state of temptation and imperfection, fear lest their children as well as themselves should be drawn from the path of duty. And this verifies the scripture assertion, Blessed is the man that feareth always. We returned by way of Albington and Worcester, and reached home Saturday night. Our journey was pleasant and prosperous, and we had many refreshing seasons of christian communion with our dear friends. On reaching home we found, that our dear Bethia had been sick nearly all the time of our absence, bringing upon Theodore and Mary a double load of labour and anxiety. But God who is rich in mercy, comforted us, together on our return and we are now all in health, have been permitted all of us to wait upon him in his house, and most of us to assemble around the table of our divine Master, to celebrate his matchless love. Our minister preached from the 13th verse of the 6th chapter of Ephesians Take to yourselves the whole armour of God &c— we are not placed in this scene of temptation and trial, without means of defence. He who made us, designs our happiness, and among the many weapons with which he has furnished us, are conscience, religious principle, faith, the example and society of the wise and good. The afternoon sermon was peculiarly impressive and solemn. God grant that many may be led by it to serious consideration and true religion. Last Monday Miss Peirce from New-Salem, came to study French with B— yesterday rode to Amherst with Mr H— F— and Elizabeth Vines. O God of mercy give efficacy to thy own means and spread thy gospel thro' the earth & O let thy kingdom come and thy will be done in earth as it is in Heaven thro' Jesus Christ to whom be glory and dominion for ever amen

Oct 11th Last Wednesday was Bethia's birth day, I observed it in the usual manner; and the day before I observed on account of Frederic's leaving home for college. Today is Mr. H's birth day, he completes sixty one years, this I also kept in the same way. — O thou who hearest prayer, accept my imperfect service, thro' the great Mediator. One year since I fasted and prayed before God, that he would direct with regard to the course which we ought to pursue, in reference to Frederic's education. What has taken place, was at one time to all appearance an impossibility— I must consider it, as a signal answer to prayer. And I desire to improve it as an encouragement to persevere in the use and practice of this duty on all important

occasions. I am sure fasting is a duty; it is so represented by our divine master; and the examples we find in the scriptures, as well as my own experience confirm me in this opinion. To day my head became affected; The Lord give me wisdom to direct me as to the measure of abstinence to be used. Yesterday C & H with the children made us a visit. The latter are recovering. Wednesday all the family excepting myself went to N—n to attend the fair and hear the address, by Mr. Todd. I had a very pleasant and I hope a profitable season at home in communing with God and my own heart. Next day Harriet Mills came home with Theophilus, and staid till this morning. O how I long to have her savingly affected with the truths, of the gospel. Mr. Stearns preached this morning from Job, 5th chapter, 17th verse Behold happy is the man whom God correcteth. To mourners. This afternoon in Proverbs, 4th 26th Ponder the path of thy feet. On the infirmities and failings of christians. They are sins, and by indulging them, we bring dishonour upon religion, & unhappiness to ourselves and others. We can overcome them. Almighty Father, give efficacy to all the means of religion every where enjoyed, and fill the world with thy glory as the waters fill the seas. Thro' Jesus our Redeemer.

Oct. 18th To day Mr. H is absent preaching for Mr. Rogers. Five of the family have gone to N—. Theophilus Susan and Ben, went to the mills this morning, at home this afternoon. I have been reading the first Series of the Apparatus written by our beloved Whiting. I am astonished and delighted to find such a spirit of prayer and piety as runs thro' the whole. My soul is melted with gratitude to that Kind Almighty Being, who thus prepared my child for his purer worship in his immediate presence. Do I regret that his course was so soon completed? that his hopes of usefulness as a servant of Jesus Christ were cut off in their first opening?— No! Praise the Lord O my soul! He did work in him all the good pleasure of his goodness; He by his word and spirit, ripened him for that world, where sin and sorrow and pain and death can never find admission. Yes there is my son, the son of many prayers and tears, and there is my daughter; an angel of mercy while here, she unites with him in heaven, in doing the will, and in enjoying without interruption, the approbation of our Common Father, and Saviour. Praise the Lord O my soul!— Made a visit the last week at widow Day's brother's. Did some errands at N—n left with Mr. Lyman a paper respecting the Peace Society. called to see Miss Mary Williams, did not find her at home. Yesterday Charles and H— and the children called here. I do confess my faults this day. How seldom do I speak to my family and others upon the subject of religion. Holy Spirit help my infirmities, and give me more of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

Oct. 25th Attended worship at N— Mr Stearns preached this morning from Colossians 3d-21st Fathers provoke not your children &c— On gentleness and decision in managing children may I profit by it. This afternoon, from Psalm 16th 8th I have set the Lord always before me. This thought should govern all our conduct. Last wednesday Doct. Brown and wife and Mr and Mrs. Ward visited here. Yesterday Miss Stearns and Miss Lyman. The exceptions vileness of my heart breaks out, it rises in opposition to duty— O Father forgive sanctify and save us all, and all mankind, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour amen.

Nov. 1st 1835. I stay at home today with Miss Paige who is unwell. Little Fanny came over Friday and staid till today. If she is not holy harmless undefiled, separate from sinners, I know of no one who is.- The Lord preserve her blameless, unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Frederic came home yesterday forenoon. Praised the Lord for his goodness. I thank thee O my Father, for all that is lovely and praise worthy in this child. Perfect I beseech thee that which concerneth him, and prepare him to do much for the honour of God and the salvation of souls. Edward returned last week in safety: may the grace of God preserve him from a too eager pursuit of the perishing things of time. To thy guidance and blessing I commit him & them: who will keep that which is committed unto thee. The week past I have been much discouraged with these children whom we have taken; and have nearly determined to send back Susan. There are several objections to her remaining here, which I think ought to be regarded as sufficient- may the Divine Spirit guide all our decisions, and make our duty plain. And now, O thou Eternal One, the highest & the holiest, grant me some suitable conceptions of thy being and perfections, while I attempt to draw near to thee in prayer; and may my thots and affections be so purified and elevated as to mingle with the services of thy worshippers, in the spiritual world. In the name of our great Advocate, Jesus Christ the Righteous. Amen.

Nov. 8th Today I have again been permitted to listen to the preached word Mr. S. preached in the morning from Have faith in God. Much of our deadness and barrenness in the Divine life is owing to our want of faith. We must believe that God has never required of us services which we are not able to perform, nor encouraged us with hopes, which he has determined to disappoint Whatever we believe to be duty we must engage in, with the firm belief that thro' Christ strengthening us we can do all things. This afternoon the text was in John 6th 37th All that the Father giveth me shall come to me and him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out. The humble, broken hearted sinner who hungers and thirsts after righteousness, shall be received and blessed by Christ. All who come with this temper, tho cast off and condemned by their fellow men, shall be welcome and owned in the great day of account.

Last Monday Charles was attacked by a violent fit of the bilious cholic. His distress was great for many hours, at length God was pleased to bless the means for his relief, and he is now well. attended public worship today. Our most heartfelt gratitude is due secondly to our unwearied Preserver but still the greatest blessing is still to be experienced, and that is a sanctified improvement of this visitation. have I not prayed day and night that it may prove to him the chastening of a kind Father?- God of mercy I still pray for this- tho I may not be permitted to know the effect which thy dealings have upon his character (for he speaks not of him, M) yet O Father of mercies I would cheerfully leave him with thee, hoping that thou wilt bless him with all spiritual blessings in heavenly things in Christ Jesus, and that thy word may have free course and be glorified.

Nov 15th Attended public worship at N- Mr S- preached in the morning from Matthew 5th- Let your light shine before men, that they &c The importance and benefit of a good example- and the obligations which lie upon christians, to contribute their their aid to advance the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. This afternoon

the text was in Corinthians, But ye measuring yourselves
by yourselves, and comparing yourselves among yourselves
are not wise. We should fix for ourselves a high standard
of excellence; nothing short, of the perfect example of the
Son of God. This evening heard a sermon read in the family
of Mr. Abbott's on family worship. As for me and my house
we will serve the Lord. - I would praise the Lord that he
has given me such a sense of the importance of this duty
as to perform it in the absence of my husband; and who
knows but to this with the divine blessing has been owing
the virtue and religion of our children. - And I would
here mention with gratitude the goodness of God in inclining
the heart of my oldest son to perform this duty; truly
I bear him on my heart day and night before God. with
all my children, and beg that God would bless them all
with spiritual blessings in heavenly things in Christ Jesus.
called at Charles', at noon found them all in health. O my
Father let not the bounties of thy Providence, estrange
their hearts from thee the merciful Giver. Preserve
all this dear family as in the hollow of thine hand
and so dispense to us sorrow and joy, that we may
at length, meet in a better world, and all unite forever
in the sublime services of the temple not made with hands
O let thy kingdom come. Destroy vice and evil, O Spirit
and truth of God. and let Jesus and his salvation bless thousands

Nov. 15th This morning I have been at home alone. Had a season of prayer
uninterrupted, except by wandering thoughts. These intruders on my hallowed
moments, are becoming more troublesome, and it is time to enlist more
powerful weapons to repel them. Fasting and prayer are mighty through
God to the casting down of imaginations; and I have intended to
observe and practise this duty on one of the days of this week,
I shall make particular mention of slavery, pray for its abolition
for the reign of Universal Peace, for a blessing upon our civil
authorities, that our great National Council may be so enlightened
and guided, that the interests of virtue and holiness may
be promoted, that the counsels of the wicked may be turned
into foolishness, and the Redeemer's kingdom be every where
established. Yesterday Mary and I carried Susan Clarke home.
In the great day of account, may it appear that some religious
impressions were made upon her mind while here. Friday Elizabeth
Williams left us. So pass our days - swifter than a weaver's shuttle.
may we keep their end in sight. Mr H. has been troubled for two or
three weeks with the sciatic. He sometimes ~~thinks~~ says his remaining
time is short. This is true, and may we feel it every day more
and more sensibly. May it be our chief care to cultivate an acquain-
tance with heavenly things, and to this end may we be more
frequently conversing about them and striving hold them up to
the view of others. Remember us all with the favour thou
bearest to thy children, so that when released from this mortal
load, this outlet to sin, our freed spirits may mingle in the
holy employments of heaven where our loved ones have all
ready arrived. - Bless all the services of this day and convert
sinners every where to thyself. Thro' Jesus Christ our Saviour
amen. -

Nov. 29th 1835 – Sabbath evening – Went to worship at N– today – Mr Stearns preached in the morning from these words in Colossians, set your affections on things above. This afternoon from Matthew 7th chapter, Ask and ye shall receive &c – On the agency of man in his salvation – There must be a strength of purpose which shall incline him to pray, to seek as for his life, communion with his Maker, and conformity to him. This evening have a sermon of Mr Abbott's read, to the aged, They shall still bring forth fruit in old age – The fruits which they ought to exhibit are strong faith, repentance, hope, devotion, indifference to the world – and preparation for heaven – they should be so raised above the objects of sense, as to meet the disappointments and trials of life, with composure; anger should never ruffle their temper, but calmness, humility and self-government be conspicuous in all their conduct. O how desirable but how difficult – I am covered with confusion when I look at myself – I am surely the most unworthy of thy servants, ~~and~~ am unworthy to be called thy servant O thou God of purity and love; – but I come to thee for pardon and help – without thee I perish, Lord save me and all mine. Had a letter from William last night. Has become a divinity student in Cambridge – may God be with him and bless him. This evening Miss Paige has gone to Amherst to take the stage for home. Theophilus B. and M– have also gone. Her residence here has endeared her to us, may our example have no bad influence with her; – We profess to be governed by religious principles, and yet our practice is at variance with the rules of the gospel, & the example of Christ. O for more purity – Heaven alone is the abode of holiness – thither then let our thoughts & wishes tend. Our thanksgiving is to be celebrated this week may we think less of gratifying our appetites, and more of rendering to God the homage of the heart. –

Friday Dec. 4th – Yesterday we attended public worship at N–n – Mr Stearns sermon was upon these words in Corinthians, Let no man seek his own but every one another's wealth – On striving to advance the public welfare – Our children and grandchildren, came over after meeting and kept thanksgiving with us. Edward came over wednesday evening, and staid all night. They all returned last evening excepting Fanny, who is to go home on sunday. We have this year peculiar cause for gratitude; thro' the scenes of sickness and anxiety we were carried thro' of us in safety and since that time, two of our number have been attacked violently, but have been rescued and restored with out a long confinement. My own health since my recovery has been very good and I am almost surprised at the strength and activity with which I am favoured. But it cannot last long, my time here must be short. I pray that I may have wisdom to fill it up with duty and usefulness, I have that much

our dear departed ones; O when shall we leave this sinful state, and drop these mortal clogs, and rise to holiness and peace in heaven. hasten O Father the work of sanctification in my heart. Frederic is here. Thanks to God for all thy mercies to him - Take care of us another year, and whatever temporal mercy thou seest best to withhold, I beseech thee grant us the light of thy countenance and preparation for death and heaven. Next sabbath, we hope to commemmorate the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, may we do it with those humble and grateful emotions which shall make us acceptable in thy sight thro' Jesus Christ our Lord -

Dec. 6th Heard Mr. Stearns preach this morning from Romans 5th & 8th But God commendeth his love to us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. the death of Christ is a most powerful display of God's love to man. and of his hatred of sin. He loved mankind not because they were sinners but altho' they were sinners and has provided the most astonishing and powerful means for their redemption. The sacrament of the supper was celebrated and all of us were present excepting Theodore, who staid at home. This afternoon, the text was in Corinthians, upon Charity One breath of Charity will be worth more in the world of spirits than all the pomp and grandeur and wealth of this world. This evening heard a sermon read upon the ascension of Elijah. with which Frederic was highly delighted - He has been at home since wednesday noon. Theophilus has gone this evening to carry him out to his studies and his other home. O my Father for all that is lovely and promising in him be thy mercy praised. Perfect in him and all of us, what is lacking. and make us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light - O give us more of the Spirit of benevolence, gratitude and devotion for Jesus sake amen

Dec. 13th Mr. H. is gone to Deerfield - All the rest of the family went to C. Mr Stearns preached in the morning from Isaiah, 26th 3d. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee. In the afternoon the text was in Thessalonians, Quench not the Spirit. Those influences of the Spirit, by which impressions concerning duty are made, are from the Spirit of God. And we should carefully cherish all those impressions which lead us to greater fidelity in duty -. This evening a sermon of Mr. Abbott's, was read upon the character of Daniel -. I have resolved to pursue the business of making Mr Stearns a life member of the Peace Society. As the family are all invited to visit at Charles' Thursday I may not be able to do any thing about it this week - But if the Lord will a way and time will be provided - only may I be enabled to follow the leadings of Providence, and do whatever he shall approve. May the Divine Spirit accompany all the instructions of this sabbath every where and advance the cause of holiness and peace thro' the world, for Christ's sake amen

Dec. 20th Mr H— gone to preach at Shelburne. The weather being rather wet in the morning, we all staid at home. Theophilus complains of headache; has some fever. The Lord preserve him from a settled sickness. This we desire. But what will most conduce to his spiritual improvement we ought to desire. And this is known only to God. Then let us refer the disposal of all our concerns to him; praying that we may ever be able to say, thy will be done. I have been reading to day in Law's Serious Call to a Devout and Holy life. May my duty be made so plain that I cannot mistake it. Especially with regard to my own personal expences. What I save in this way may I sacredly devote to the Lord. We are informed of de ways in which we may help the needy. May we not suffer another week to pass, without accomplishing, or at least beginning something. Let these words be in our minds "Inasmuch as ye have done it to one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me." Father in heaven, be pleased to accompany with thy blessing thy word wherever it has been dispensed, let it not return to thee void, but accomplish the thing whereto thou hast sent it. May all the efforts of thy servants to abolish Slavery, and promote Universal Peace be abundantly prospered, and thy kingdom come and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Thro' Jesus Christ our Lord

Dec. 27th We have been to worship at N— to day. Theophilus who last sabbath was threatened with fever, drove the horses. The means made use of were bless'd, and he is again in health. Truly the Lord is nigh to all them that call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth. He also will hear their cry and will save them. Yesterday Frederic came home, It is very pleasant to see him often. We can more rightly judge of his opportunities for improvement, and his progress in knowledge and virtue, than we otherwise could. Thus far we may say, The Lord is our helper, and we ought with gratitude to bless his great and holy name. But words are poor returns for such rich and boundless blessings. The devotion of the heart, and the active service of our lives is the only acceptable sacrifice. The text this morning was in John 11th 26th "whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die!"— The hope which the righteous enjoy, of a future life of holiness and peace, with the God of goodness, the captain of salvation, and all holy intelligences, is such a support, that they may be said to be already immortal. They know that when death strips the soul of these outer garments, it does not touch the living principle, it can never die. The text this afternoon was John 5th The Father sheweth him all things that himself doeth.— Let thy kingdom come and will be done on earth as in

Jan. 1st 1836. It is the new year. This evening our children who live with us have gone to N—, to see their brother and sister, and I have thought to devote a few moments to looking back upon the past and forward to the future. In the course of the last year our family have been repeatedly attacked with sickness, sometimes alarmingly sick, but out of these troubles the Lord hath delivered us, and death has not been permitted to enter our dwelling. We are alive & signally blessed with health and comfort. The most heart-felt gratitude is due to that merciful Being who has so kindly carried us along in the arms of his compassion. In addition to all other blessings I would still entreat another one — that we may all become more holy. Whether our lives shall be spared another year, is of little importance. But to be purified from sin, and made meet for heaven, this I certainly desire. Lord thou knowest all things thou knowest that I would choose thy approbation rather than possess the riches of the world. — O then let us, in the coming year, make advances in holiness, and may thy kingdom every where come and thy will be done in earth as in heaven

Jan. 3d We have again joined in worship at N— Mr Stearns, text this morning was in Luke 9th 25th. For what is a man advantaged if he shall gain &c This afternoon Ephesians 5th 16th Redeeming the time &c both solemn sermons. How ardently do I desire that the word may sink into the hearts of the hearers, like good seed sown in good ground. Tomorrow is to be observed as a day of fasting and prayer, for the conversion of the world. — God grant that prayers and efforts may go together. Make me and all mine more faithful to the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom, and in the diligent discharge of duty may our faith be strengthened, our hopes brightened and our souls better fitted for the society and service of the house not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

Jan. 10th Mr H preached at Montague today. Theophilus stayed at home with Ben — the rest of us went to N— heard Mr Stearns in the morning upon the connexion of miracles with the authenticity of the Gospel History — this afternoon. upon Pilate's character. I have had much internal sin to humble me the week past. and I have bowed down before my heavenly Father with the feelings of the publican, God be merciful to me a sinner. Edward has returned in safety. Praise the Lord O my soul. William is to preach at Hubbardston two sabbaths — possibly may come home. The clouds of this morning have in a degree been dispelled — O thou Author of all good, what can we do or enjoy without thee, I beg that thy grace may be sufficient for us and thy strength be made perfect in our weakness. Last monday we united in secret in fasting and prayer for the conversion of the world

Jan. 24th 1836- I have again heard our minister preach, in the morn-
ing from these words lead us not into temptation. In the afternoon
from these upon the government of the thoughts. Last sabbath
I omitted this exercise. I have been enabled at length to accomplish
the object, and we have collected money enough 20 dol to make our
minister a life member of the Peace Society. I began with fear
and trembling, and with the cooperation of Helen we have
finished - To God be the praise of our success, and to his
glory may it all contribute. May I not hope that begun
as it was in humble dependence on divine aid and with
a firm belief that the Reign of Peace and love will one
day be universal, even this feeble effort may be accepted
with him who will not break the bruised reed nor
quench the smoking flax. - I have many blessings to
mention but the cold is painful - Lord accept. & forgive
for Jesus sake. -

Jan 31st Tho' a stormy day we have attended worship at N-n, and
heard two excellent sermons, one in the morning from Mat.
How wilt thou say to thy brother let me pull out &c -
this observation of our Saviour does not at all discountenance
the endeavour to do good and promote righteousness among
mankind - It enjoins a faithful examination of our own
heart and conduct, and the renouncing of every evil there
that we may be able to recommend by example as well as
precept the goodness we ourselves love. - all the appear-
ances of goodness, are without value, if they do not proceed
from the love of goodness for its own sake. This afternoon
the text was in 1st Peter, 5th 5th. Be clothed with humility
a beautiful description of this important grace, and an
urgent call to all, the young especially, to ~~[illegible]~~ become
possessed of its purifying influence. - Last Tuesday our
children and grandchildren from N- dined with us. After
every interview with them I regret that I have said so
little upon the the grand subject which should occupy
our first thoughts, and desires. Wednesday we carried the
back to College, having had a pleasant vacation, O thou
covenant keeping God, bless him with thy constant
protection and guidance, that he may be thoroughly
furnished to every good work and may we all at length
be united to our own dear ones, and the general
assembly and church of the first born thro' Jesus,
our great Intercessor to whom be praise & glory forever amen

Feb. 7th Today I am at home alone with Ben. and have been reviewing some of
the records of the year 1834 - and 5 - Is it a mere selfish gratification which
it imparts? or do I become more strong in duty, by thus reviving in
my heart, the impressions of former times? - The weather since the first
of December, has generally been so cold as to make it almost impossible
to make any record of feelings or events in my own room. And then

it very difficult, in the presence of others, or where there is conversation, to write my own thoughts with ease. I have therefore brought my desk and placed it by the fire, that nothing may prevent the work intended. Ben. has learned his verses, and has become able to read little stories understandingly, which is quite a favour. He gives me more trouble than any thing else does. But as I trust it was a desire to save a soul from death, which first induced me to take him, I must still hope that the labour will not be in vain. If I had more self-command I might do well, but how often when reproving him do I disregard the faults of my own temper. I almost regret that I have undertaken the task. Lord help me, or I shall worse than fail in the attempt.

Last Thursday I was fifty seven. For a few reflections on this occasion see the birth day record. Cares and labours have pressed with unusual weight for a few weeks past, the cold for the last week has also been intense, and my seasons for devotion, have necessarily been more uncertain, and my time for reading has been less; and no wonder if my enjoyment of divine things, and thoughts of heaven should become fainter, and fewer. Do thou O Father who hast the hearts of all at thy disposal, graciously direct me to such an employment of my time as shall promote thy glory, and encrease my own usefulness and happiness. Never let the things of time shut out from my view the interests of eternity. Last week we called on Mrs. Smith. She is apparently on her dying bed, and without those cheering views of gospel truth which are so necessary to support in the last struggle. She fears her religion is all selfish, and longs for more evidence of her adoption - She seems like one of those mourners, whom Jesus came to comfort. May the comforter which he promised speak peace and pardon to her sorrowing spirit. And may her children by this visitation, learn to trust and love the God of the fatherless. Friday we visited all of us except Theodore, at Deacon Dickinson's. had a very pleasant time, some religious conversation with Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Phelps, and Mrs. Sabin. Heard also a good report from Mr. Fiske one of the professors, concerning our dear Frederic. O thou Author of all good let not feelings of pride be awakened within me, but let the only emotion which I feel be gratitude for thy goodness to me and mine. And now O Father glorify thy name and thy Son's name through this world. Amen.

Feb. 14th. We have been permitted again to attend worship at N—n Mr Stearns preached in the morning from 8th Romans - For the good that I would I do not, and the evil that I would not that I do - The carnal mind is enmity against God.. Charles is unwell with tooth ache and sore ~~throat~~ - not at meeting. Bethia went over to attend the concert, and will stay a week or two!. Had a letter from William last night, he will stay two or three sabbaths longer at Hubbardston, God grant that he may do much good, and thus magnify his office. Yesterday Theophilus went to see Frederic - found him well -

I have had much to struggle with in my own temper, for some time past. What little patience I have ever exercised, seems to be exhausted; and I feel almost discouraged. But Mr Stearns told us today there was no cause for discouragement. The struggle must be continued and can never end but with life. When I think of my own imperfections, and failings, I am astonish=ed at the forbearance of God; and wonder with these views that I should be so impatient at the failings of others. May these considerations come to my assistance in the time of temptation, and O thou Divine Spirit, do thou strengthen me both in the inner and outer man, and help me to overcome evil with good. Let me look more constantly to Jesus, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, des=pising the shame, and is now set down on the right hand of God. I would express my gratitude, that I have so much health of body, and that the hope of heaven is yet indulged me. O for grace to live more answerable to my obligations. Be pleased to order our temporal concerns in such a manner, that our death may be peaceful and our eternity glorious. As connected with eternity, the things of time are highly important. May I ever regard them in this light. May the means of religion be every where blessed to the glory of God thro' Jesus Christ amen.

March 27th There has been a long chasm, in my sabbath records; for two or three weeks it was so cold as to render it very uncom=fortable to write without a fire; and two of the last sabbaths before today, we have had sickness to prevent. Two weeks ~~sabbaths~~ ago yesterday, I was siezed apparently with fever, sent for Doctr Flint, was bled, and found relief. The remains of fever continued four or five days, in a slight degree and I had leisure and solitude to think. O blessed priv=ilege of rising on the wings of heavenly contemplation to the invisible world. Thanks be to God who, when we view ourselves as frail and dying, giveth us the victory thro' our Lord Jesus Christ. I can never praise him as I ought, for those calm and cheering views of divine things which I enjoyed during my illness. and that he put into my heart some purposes of benevolence. Grant O Father that they may not be lost utterly but be ma=tured, and bring forth some good fruit. Monday after I was taken sick, Frederic was brought home covered with measles he was very sick lungs much loaded and a hard cough but God our own God carried him thro' and he is quite well, tho' not able to return to college. For a week past

Mary has been sick; we first thot it the measles, but she has no eruption and we think it must be the Influenza she seems to be gaining slowly. So we have constantly new motives to zealous effort in our masters service. We should thank him too for providing us help at this time, so seasonably and mercifully. Theophilus too has been wonderfully relieved, when apparently threatened with fever. God has blest the means used, and to him be the glory. T. and T. and I went to N— and heard Mr. S—n today. In the morning he preached from Luke 17th 10th So likewise ye &c— say we are unprofitable servants. When the disciples said "Lord Increase our faith," they probably desired Christ to give them some more evidence of his greatness and power as a temporal Prince. But he showed them by the relation of master and servant, that they had nothing to claim. Their labours and sacrifices, were no more than was their duty to render, and their ability to serve him was derived from God. So it is with all, we are not our own, and all that we can do is due to our Maker This afternoon the text was in Luke 4th from 16th to 31st verse— an exposition and practical reflections. O that I could remember what I hear. It is sweet to my taste as honey to my mouth, but it is gone. how treacherous memory— will it be so in heaven?— Shall we there mourn over forgotten sermons?— Shall we not be there all heart to feel and remember and practice goodness? Went to Charles's, found little Charles had been quite sick yesterday but much better today. another call for gratitude. May we all render it in some measure as we ought. O Father let a blessing follow thy truth every where and may Jesus reign King of nations as he is King of saints

April 3d. Theophilus is again unwell, seems threatened with a settled fever; but he who lately restored him, can do it again, in him is all our hope. Theodore and Mary have gone to N—. The Lords supper is to be ~~attended~~ celebrated, but having only one horse able to go the rest of us remain at home. It is matter of unspeakable joy that the Most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands only, but says to that man will I look even to him who is of an humble and contrite spirit The secret retirement is the place for holy communion with the Infinite Spirit. I have endeavoured to cherish and deepen the emotions which the death of Jesus is calculated to excite by reading and thought, but I have constant reason to feel ashamed of my failures in duty, and of the secret sins of my heart, which perhaps appear but faintly to every eye but that of the searcher of Hearts—

Last monday we were rejoiced with a visit from William, who still preaches at Hubbardston. He stayed here and at N— till Thursday during which time he gave pleasing evidence that it is his meat and drink to do the will of his heavenly Father. May he be employed as a blessed instrument in promoting the kingdom of Christ in the world. We heard last week of the intention of Mr. Fisher to remove to Massachusetts. We should rejoice to be able to see them oftener, and to have them enjoy more favourable circumstances for educating their children; may the Allwise Disposer of events, direct them into the way which he shall approve and bless. — Next ~~thurs~~ day is appointed for a day of fasting and prayer. O thou who hearest prayer send the influences of thy Spirit into the hearts of thy children, that they may keep such a fast as thou hast chosen, and intercede for an ungodly and wicked world. — And do thou assist me in this duty, and let me be able with thy help, to attend to this duty with fidelity — and to thy acceptance. O may the energy of thy spirit be felt by all thy ministers every where, and may the kingdoms of this world, speedily become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ. —

April 10th The day has been rainy and the travelling bad — and we all staid at home, excepting Mr. H— who went to the mills this afternoon. Theophilus too is sick, and has been since last sabbath monday he was bled and found relief from the violence of his fever, but has lingered along with a bad tongue and stomach ever since; we hope he is gaining slowly; how loath are we to have our friends removed from us, and how sensibly do we feel their sufferings! O how desirable, that we should all be careful to live in such a manner, that our surviving friends, may have a good hope concerning us. We have great comfort in thinking of those who have been removed. may we all have satisfactory evidence that we are the children of God. Prepare us all, I beseech thee for an entrance into thy kingdom. Grant that the sickness which our dear son has now been visited with may be the means of life and health to his soul. and may all learn wisdom by the various events of thy providence. Thanks to thy name that I enjoyed something of the spirit of prayer on fast day — may this spirit be increased more and more, and may the world be less and less the object of my hopes and desires. — Watch over me I beseech thee this week and keep me from all sin. grant to thy servant health and strength and let us be more spiritual in our conversation that our light may shine & our characters be improved — O hear me and answer and bless all mine and thine thro' Jesus thy dear Son our Intercessor to whom be honour and glory forever amen

April 17th Frederic and I have been to worship at N—n Mr. Stearns preached in the morning from these words. whosoever shall offend one of these little ones who believeth in me it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck &c Immortal beings have many hindrances in their way to heaven. Ridicule is used with much success in this cause. Persecution also has the same effect. & sophistry. The inconsistent lives of professors also lead many to stumble at the word, and it becomes unfruitful. — This afternoon he gave an exposition upon several verses containing an account of our Saviour's last journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. He noticed the devotedness of his conduct to his Father's will. He stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, tho' he knew it was the way to the cross. his departure there is spoken of as being received up so he spake of his disciples, if I go away I will come again that I may receive you to myself. and so all his followers when they leave this world are taken to heaven. The Samaritans would not receive Christ nor afford him a lodging because he was going to Jerusalem; thus do differing sects deny to each other their communion and fellowship this is wrong. Jesus rebuked his friends who resented this treatment of their master and told them they were deceiving themselves. How often do selfish views and feelings mingle with our regard for the honour of Christ, and defile our best services. In our Saviour's life we see no revenge nothing but benevolence he says he came to save men's lives not to destroy them. And when within sight of the city he viewed it in its splendour and in its sins he wept over it. Carry to the hearts of the hearers a solemn sense of truths this day delivered, and make them the power of God to the salvation of sinners. Theophilus is still poorly. we hope gaining tho' slowly — may tribulation work patience &c and may the fruit of all thy dealings with us be to take away sin —

April 24th. Bethia Theodore Frederic and I have attended worship at N—n Mr Stearns's text in the morning was "man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" this afternoon, "For where your treasure is there will your heart be also. The object which engages the affections shuts out other objects, therefore how desirable to seek above all things the favour of God and likeness to Christ — We see another sabbath in health and peace. I ask of thee O Father a sanctified use both of our sickness and returning health. Let us not by our ingratitude lose the benefit which thou hast intended. Last wednesday William came. we had a pleasant visit — I remember the anguish which wrung my heart, when he went from us to the south, and that also which we felt when he harboured infidel sentiments. But the comfort which he now gives us must be permanent. It is built upon the truth and promises of him who cannot lie. I thank God for the shining evidence he gives of a heart devoted to his Maker. O Father make him thy care, and an instrument to promote thy glory. He left us saturday Frederic's eyes prevent his studying. Restore him if it please thee and make us know the way of duty. I made Mrs. Hitchcock a visit wednesday. —

May 1st 1836 Brot along by the hand of a kind Father, I find myself and my family this day in comfort and health. Well may we enquire, "what we shall render to the Lord for all his benefits?" I would say, all that I am, and all that I have, and all that I can do, is the least that I can offer. And although my heart is conscious of many evil dispositions unsubdued, yet I must appeal to him, who is to be my final judge, that more than any earthly thing do I desire to be wholly transformed into the image of Christ. The remains of sin, which I too frequently discern, are my burden, and my grief, and I look sometimes with a wishful eye, to those pure and holy regions, where dwell the good and the happy, my own dear kindred, and my own dear children.

Our children have all gone to N— today. Mr H— and Ben. to Hat— I am alone at home. During the last week we have had no help and Mary is with Helen. If we need assistance the Lord will provide. Earthly good I would not eagerly desire. Only let us have a sancti-fied use of all thy dispensations. After the long winter which continued five months, we are permitted to enjoy the warm-er influences of the sun and air, and the gentle rain. These are thy gifts O bounteous Author of all our blessings; may they lead the hearts of thy dependent sinful children, to more entire devotion and obedience to thee. May this blessed sabbath come to millions of thy rational offspring in all its hallowing cheering influence, and may the blessed hour be hastened when the kingdoms of this world, shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign for ever and ever.—

May 8th This is the birthday of our Elizabeth, and our departed Catherine. I have often raised my desires to God this day, that the one who remains may be more and more furnished to duty, and that the dear one who is gone, tho' dead may yet speak to us. The last sermon of Mr. Dewey's was read this evening, and upon this text. O what animating thots and all expressed in poetry. God grant that we may find our friends tho' dead yet speaking to us, and calling us onward to glory and virtue. I look back upon my past life, with wonder, and gratitude. O why is it that I have not made greater progress in holiness? why do I still find so much evil in my heart? Can it be that a soul so unholy, so little like the blessed Saviour, can ever enter heav— O blessed Spirit cast out the evil spirits by thy word. Mr Thom— preach today this morning from Luke— If ye then being evil &c on prayer, this afternoon, Galatians, the fruits of the spirit are — meekness.— on humility. at noon read in Saurins serm— The children are better. Mrs. M— Smith made us a visit last Thursday— I have been old and heavy a week or two, and this morning set out for N— with a little dizziness and nausea, but soon got better had a quiet day. Praise the Lord O my soul— And may all flesh bless his holy name thro' Jesus Christ Amen

Sabbath May 15th This morning I am at home alone. Have been finishing a letter to Doct. F— the substance of which originated in my mind while I was sick a few weeks since. Perhaps I shall never have courage to send it. If not perhaps it may fall into the hands of somebody to whom it may do good. O thou Searcher of hearts, thou knowest it is written with an earnest desire that it may be beneficial. To thy care and guidance and blessing I commit it.
Little Fanny has been here since Tuesday. She is a pattern of goodness. O Father let her live before thee. Monday Charles & Helen Mrs. James Mills and little Charles drank tea with us Tuesday evening the singing Society met here. Wednesday the two brothers and sisters made a visit at Mr. Dudley Smiths.
It was determined yesterday to send Ben. to the overseers of the poor, I had myself become wearied out and discouraged as well as the rest of the family. But when I thot of him as a poor friendless child, separated from those with whom he had always lived, and exposed to many injurious influences, my heart yearned over him. In the language of scripture, "my repentings were kindled together. Since I spake against him I do earnestly remember him still" Mr H— carried him down, but there was no place provided and they were very desirous that he should remain with us. And now this is my petition and this is my request, that we may see thy blessing attending our efforts to train him up for thy service. A wayward child - but fashioned by thine hand, brot into existence by thine appointment - and is any thing to hard for the Lord? - To my weak and erring mind be pleased to give strength and courage and pardon and peace. This day O Father spread thy gospel. revive thy work. bring the stout hearted to repentance, and let peace and righteousness fill the world thro' Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. amen
Sabbath May 22d I have attended worship at N. with several of the family. Mr. Stearns preached in the morning from these words, if any man will be my disciple let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. In the afternoon, John 5th On the commission and Authority of Christ. Read some of Saurin's sermons at noon. Friends all comfortable. I have felt for two or three weeks very old and weary. It brings often to my mind my frailty and mortality. may it be blessed for my good. Let the important truths this day dispensed every where be blessed for the good of souls, put an end speedily to wars, and, Lord, and all sick and sin O let Jesus see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied. Tuesday is Charles's birth day, may observe it with suitable feelings, and be accepted. Heavenly Father guide us all this week, and all our remaining weeks and O of thy mercy bring me at length to thy holy with all mine thro' Jesus Christ to whom be glory and blessing forever amen

Sabbath May 29th Yesterday was the birth day of our dear Frederic, and of our dear departed Whiting. I observed it as usual. The Lord hear and answer my poor prayers. Today I have been reading in Dwights Theology a sermon on prayer, and two on the religious education of children. Also looked over some of Whitings writings, and have almost determined to copy his Poem on the Social State, and send it to his friends for whom it was written. If I thought I could find time to accomplish it, I would certainly undertake. Theodore who is troubled with a heavy cold, staid at home with me. The others gone to N—n. Mary has complained of a pain in her side the week past; may the infirmities of her body, prepare her soul for an immortal state, where sickness and pain and death are never known. And may all our difficulties and trials, be the means of fitting us for the society of angels and saints in Heaven. Hear O Father the prayers which may be offered to thee this day from thy children every where. Bless and prosper all the means of instruction. Guide the Rulers of this nation and deliver us from war, and slavery, and every vice. May all nations be blessed and thy kingdom come and will be done on earth as it is in heaven thro' Jesus Christ.

June 5th This day we have all been allowed to attend worship at N—n and have all united in celebrating the death of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. What a privilege! to join as a family in thus confessing Christ before men. Is it not a foretaste of that blessed union which shall be consummated in the more immediate presence of God? — The text in the morning was in 1st Thessalonians 5th 10th "who died for us". In the afternoon Hebrews 12th 1st "Wherefore laying aside every weight &c." Read a sermon of Saurin's at noon on small duties — The way to keep the conscience tender is to guard against committing small ~~duties~~ sins and omitting small duties. — The conscience is to the soul what the senses are to the body. Last Wednesday Frederic returned to College, ~~obtained~~ leave of absence yesterday, to come home and attend the celebration of the Lord's supper. gone back tonight. With Edward who came to bring his brothers home, he eat supper and attended family worship with us, and went to carry F— part of the way on his return home. How much are we blest in our family! We want nothing more but an increase of love and gratitude and devotion to God and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Follow with thy blessing all the means of grace, and fill the world with thy glory, thro Jesus Christ. to whom be glory

June 12th Bethia and Ben. stayed at home today. Mr H— preached at Prospect ... the rest went to N—. Frederic is permitted to spend his sabbaths at home the term, which is a great comfort to us and to him. Mr. Stearns text this morning was in Galatians 5th chapter, 6th verse. "For in Jesus Christ &c. The most perfect course of outward obedience, if not performed from a desire to please God, cannot be acceptable to God — This afternoon Jeremiah 8th 20th "The harvest is past the summer is ended and we are not saved. On a death bed repentance. a solemn sermon. may the divine Spirit seal instruction to the minds of all the hearers. Mary and I went to Charles' at noon. all well. Mrs. Pierce and little James are there. Last week Mrs Brown and Miss Betsey Edwards drank tea here. after the funeral of Miss Sally Williams. Tuesday I went to N— on business. Rode to Amherst Thursday week. Had two letters from W—y yesterday. Have been favoured with a heavenly state of mind the last week! Praised be the Lord. Hold thou me up and I shall be safe. Have us in thy holy keeping, and let no evil come near us, and no temptation overcome us. Look in mercy upon our beloved country and save us from the miseries of war — Return the counsels of the wicked into foolishness. Bless all the nations of the earth and let the world be filled with the knowledge and glory of thy name. for Jesus sake

Hadley June 26th 1836 - The sabbath of the Lord, Holy and honourable
I have spent some time in teaching Ben. And I pray that thou
who hast the residue of the Spirit, wouldst impart of thy
divine influence to him that the instruction given may be
as good seed sown into good ground, bringing forth fruit
to the glory of thy name. Last evening we had two letters
from William. Blessed be God for the grace bestowed upon him,
help him to impart it to others, and may thy work prosper in
his hand. May the advice which he gives to his brothers &
sisters be highly conducive to their improvement in virtue
and piety. Mr. H preaches at Leverett half the time, may God in
mercy qualify him for this great work and may he feel
an increasing desire for the salvation of sinners. O Father
may thy church militant arise and shine her light
being come. The great battle between Christ and the
powers of darkness seems to be going on. Give the victory
to thy Son. Overcome all evil, subdue thine enemies
under his feet, and may thy glorious gospel enlighten the
whole earth. — Thro' Jesus our Lord and Saviour amen. —
July 3d Today we went to N — found Mr. Stearns too unwell to preach
worn down by the sickness of his child — we went to the Old Church
and heard Professor Park. On the decrees or foreknowledge of God. Came
back at noon. I have been reading the report of the Bible Society
yesterday Rena took moved her things, and has come to take
up her residence with us. I for one seek thy aid and guidance
that I may indulge no feelings toward her, but those of love
and kindness. Knowing my evil propensities I would rest on
thee to save me, and to make this arrangement produc-
-tive of peace and comfort to her and to us. Monday Dea.
Flint dined here and young Colman. Clapp and Frederic came
at night. Wednesday F— came home with Freeman and Davis.
Charles Helen and Mrs Pierce and their children with Harriette
came also. Thursday Mrs Hitchcock spent the afternoon with
us. and I gave her some Anti-Slavery Tracts — Yesterday Theodore
and Mary went to prepare for the celebration of the fourth July
I wish that every christian might spend a season on that day in
praying that war and slavery and oppression, and all sin may
cease, and that Jesus and his gospel may triumph universally.

July 17th Last sabbath we all ~~atten~~ attended worship at [illegible] except
T. and Clapp and Ben. Mr H preached in the morning from
Isaiah "Watchman what of the night &c" in the afternoon
from Psalms, In thy light shall we see light. Wednesday
afternoon Theodore Mary and I went to Amherst, the
former, having been unwell a day or two. Same afternoon
George Wells and Sophia came from Shelburne, at
nine in the evening Edward ~~and Mr~~ came to invite B.
to go to Oswego with him Friday stayed all night and
[illegible] who is gone on to the west with him; next evening
Theophilus went with B. to N. and they went on at two
next morning to Albany - next day morning Wells and sister
went to Holyoke attended by Theophilus and Mary. left
us after dinner. Saturday afternoon Miss Uphams Woods and
Caroline called here. after they went, Miss Murdock and
Dorothy Dickinson called to go on Pleasant Hill, came
back and drank tea. Mr Fisher, came in the evening on
his way to Boston. went over with us this morning - we
all went over today. Heard Mr Holland preach from these
words in the Books of Eccle. I beheld &c - and all was
vanity and vexation of spirit. this aft. work out your
salvation &c - went Helen's at noon. all pretty well. -
The week past has been a confused time and I almost long
for the wings of a dove that I may fly away and be at
rest. I do not mean rest from labour, but from worldly care
and the dangerous tendency of intercourse with the
world. It is difficult for me to discern always the boun-
dary between duty to God and conformity to the world
O blessed state where there shall be no mistake and
doubt. no obstacle to hinder our communion with our
God and Saviour no pressing labours to deprive us of
our seasons of devotion. Yet O my soul wait a little
longer and thy warfare will cease. the struggle will
be over and we shall follow our dear departed ones to
the purity and peace of heaven. yesterday our dear Will
was 32 - I observed the morning as usual. We miss much
our beloved B. but we hope again to meet - so we hope to
meet again the dear departed - may we all meet in heaven for Christ's
sake

July 24th Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust &c. Job. 5th chapt. 6th and 7th verses. A sort of funeral sermon preach this morning by Doc Bancroft, occasioned by the death of Mr. Stearns' child, who died last week. I have felt very desirous ever since the child was taken sick that the visitation might be beneficial to that society. To God we must look for every needed good. He alone can give efficacy to the means of grace. Last Tuesday Charles Heber and the children spent the day here. The next day she was taken unwell and Friday night half after ten she was made the joyful mother of another son. Rather unexpected, but they seem to be doing well. Mary and I went over Friday and I stayed till next morning. At first I felt somewhat alarmed, but it all was ordered very kindly. Thus another obligation is laid upon these parents, and an increase of duty ~~must~~ be performed. Father of mercies give them the spirit of grace and supplication, the spirit of zeal and fidelity and may every thing be done by them as in thy presence, and to thy glory. We have had another very busy week! ~~company~~ almost every day to call or to visit. but our strength seems to be proportioned to our need. If we may have the cheering hope of heaven, and the divine presence to accompany us, what can we need more? - Do we do desire beside to see the advancement of Christ's kingdom of peace and truth and righteousness. We long to see the man of sin destroyed in all his forms, war slavery, spiritual domination, intemperance profanity, impurity sabbath breaking oppression of every kind we long to see all this consumed by the fire of divine love. And for this purpose may thy children pray that thy kingdom may come and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

July 31st The family have gone to N— excepting Theophilus and Ben. who went to the mills, and I stayed at home. Had a precious time for prayer and reading. Read two sermons in Dwight's Theology upon the angels, and began one on creation. How animating is the thought that the pure and holy and benevolent beings who inhabit heaven are employed in errands of mercy to us mortals! may we learn to live in some degree worthy of this ministration. Last Thursday was the anniversary of the departure of our dear Whiting, and I frequently bore it in mind especially in secret. In the afternoon Mary and I went to the grave, to deepen and revive our impressions of eternal things. There is no terror now to me in the thought of death. It is sweet to

think of our friends who have fallen asleep in Jesus, to believe that the
are like the angels, raised to the exalted services of the upper world
who would be content to grovel here forever? yet I would not ask to be
taken out of the world, but to be kept from the evil. To be enabled even
here to do something of the work of angels; Truly this is my salvation
and my greatest desire. The labours of life press, and I have less time
for secret duties than I wish. But it is a precious privilege to hold
communion with the Father of our spirits, and to feel his divine
influence witnessing to our desires for his glory! I pray thee
enable me this week to make some effort to do good. I have been
too long idle; O help me to arise and go about the work which
Jesus came to accomplish. Direct me to some course which thou
wilt bless for the good of souls. - Accept the poor returns of gratitude
which I would make for the abundant blessings of the season,
for our health and ease and tranquillity, for strength by day &
rest by night. For the hope of heaven, and the thoughts of thy
truth which come to my mind amidst the business of this life.
O give us all as a family more of thy spirit, and may we pursue
the path of duty leaning on the strength of the great captain of
our salvation.

Augst 7th Sabbath evening - We have attempted to unite with our fellow
christians in celebrating the death of our Lord and Saviour - but
I have not had those lively and cheering views of divine
things which I have sometimes been favoured with. We all
went to N-n excepting Mr. H- who went to Leverett -
Mr. Stearns preach in the morning from Isaiah 53-4
afternoon Psalm 42d - 11th. I mourn over my dulness, and
stupidity, O take not thy spirit from me, - I have
thot of our dear Catherine often of late - this was the
time of her suffering. If the captain of salvation was
made perfect thro' suffering, should not his followers
be willing to walk in the same rugged way? - Little
Fanny came home with us to stay a few days. May
our intercourse be holy, and may the thot of Jesus
and heaven animate and encourage us thro' the week
hold us up and we shall be safe, enable us always to
pray thy kingdom come thy will be done &c.

August 14th Tomorrow will be the anniversary of our beloved Catherine's death; and we sung one of our dear Whiting's hymns at family wor=ship, that which begins "With joy we lift our eager eyes." It is a delightful thought that our departed friends are no longer subject to the frailties and sins and sufferings of mortality. Blessed be God that by his grace imparted to them, they were enabled to have such cheering evidence of their preparation for a purer holier state. We would follow on in the same blessed path. By strength derived from the Infinite source, we would overcome the world and the powers of darkness; and rejoice even to suffer shame for the name of Jesus. We have had little Fanny here since last sabbath. She is another who gives good evidence of sanctification she is one of those whom Jesus has blessed. May he shield her from the snares and temptations of this rough and stormy world, and in due time receive her to himself — Charles has been unwell two or three days. The Lord preserve and restore him, and continue his life and health, and that of his wife, and children, and help them so to live that they may at length stand before thee and say Lord here are we and the chil=dren thou hast given us. Mr. Harding preached this morn=ing from Ephesians, Ye are his workmanship &c On the necessity of good works, this afternoon, from Matthew 19th 17th If thou wilt enter into life keep the commandments. in the intermission read Whiting's address to the family the year after our dear Catherine's departure. May the word of God be preached to all living and the whole world become one vast temple, from which sincere worship shall ascend to the Eternal One from every human heart.

August 21st Mr Stearns preached this morning from Romans 8th 9th Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of his. This afternoon Proverbs 4th 26th Ponder the path of thy feet. On what are generally thought little sins. in distinction from gross vice — they hinder the progress of religion and bring disgrace upon its professors and guilt upon the soul. — Mrs. Mills is at N— Charles recovered, and Helen at Church in the morning — bless the Lord O our souls. I beseech thee to impress upon

the hearts of us all a sense of thy goodness, manifested to them, and may they inquire with heartfelt solicitude, what they shall render to the Lord for all thy benefits. Enable them I beseech thee to bring their little one to the house of God, and dedicate it to thee in the way of thine appointment. Theodore and I went to Amherst this afternoon to hear the President's farewell address to the students - may they receive instruction, and may we all be better for this days privileges - And may the religion of Jesus be diffused throughout the world, untill every knee shall bow to him. and every tongue confess him Lord to the glory of God the Father. -

August 28th Sabbath evening after nine. I have just prepared Theodore and Frederic to set out before day light for Boston. O Father if thou go not with them let them not go - be thou their guide their defence, their present help; afford them the pillar of a cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night - and bring them home in peace and safety in thy own good time. We all attended worship at N- heard Mr Browne of Brattleborough, this afternoon from 7th Matthew Enter ye in at the strait gate &c - this morning Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart &c - The duties we owe to God and man must not be separated - piety and morality are indispensable to the character of a christian. Last Tuesday we all went out to Amherst, to hear Mr. Cushing's address. Ben also went out to take up his residence with his mother. He is a child who needs constant watching and instruction and this he cannot have here. besides there are so many animals about the place that it is dangerous having him here. I have laboured with him and prayed for him. and I shall not cease to do so - I commit him to the great Father of all, in the hope that he may yet become a member of the family of the Redeemer - forgive all our sins be our God in life in death and forever thro' Jesus our Saviour -

Sept. 4th 1836 – ~~Sabbath~~ Sabbath evening after 10 – We all went to N– excepting Mrs H– heard two good sermons, from our minister, this morning the text was in 51st Psalm. Against thee, thee, only have I sinned &c – this afternoon John 4th – 14th
The sabbath has been rather confused; tho' I hope not altogether unprofitable. When we went over this morning we found Bethia who arrived last night from Oswego. Edward returned yesterday from St Louis. After the afternoon service Charles and Helen had their little boy baptized by the name of Elijah Hunt Mills. May a gracious God accept the dedication hear and answer the prayers and enable the parents to bring it up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. After the baptism Charles came over and brought Bethia, Fanny and Charley; the latter has a painful boil on his heel. Prepare us I beseech thee for all the sufferings and pains & trials of this mortal life. and bring us and all dear to us at length to the holy and happy society of those who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of Lamb. – Let thy word have free course and go thro' the earth untill all shall know thee from the least even to the greatest. I would not forget to notice with the deepest gratitude the goodness of God in preserving our children during their absence and bringing them home in safety. may all our lives be devoted to thee more entirely, that our end may be peace and our ~~eternity~~ eternity blessed.

Sept. 11th 1836 – Our men have all gone to N– Mr. H. was requested to supply the ~~desk~~ pulpit – and as the weather has been wet, we, the women staid at home, little George Fisher also. Last wednesday evening Dan Huntington from Lebanon came to make us a visit and brought his niece Eliza Huntington, and a Miss Jones from Ludlow – left us thursday . noon. –

I have been reading today in Milton's paradise regained, and
in Abbott's way to do good, a new book, and full of instructi[on]
also finished Upham's Manual of Peace. It is delightful
to take a view of this world, even in prospect only, as it will appear under
the influence and dominion of the principles of the gospel.
It would seem as if we should soon hear the trumpet of the
seventh angel, and the voices in heaven saying, The kingdoms of this world are becom[e]
the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall
reign forever and ever. - Do I long for this reign of righteousness?
Then why do I not do something to hasten its approach? - I have
been hoping for some opportunity to advance the cause of
liberty, and to [struck] aspirit in breaking the yoke of slavery.
but sitting still and waiting, accomplishes little. - my heart
is in the cause, I do sigh and pray for the redemption of
the captive. I long to have the system of slavery destroyed,
and the benighted and miserable cheered with the hope of
happiness and heaven. Strengthen and confirm my resolution
this week and enable me to go about, [struck] to converse with
females, to propose plans and thus set others on examination
and effort. - Suffer me not to rest in ease and indulgence
when I have it in my power by any means to aid in giving
relief. -- The season has been very cold and dry. - God seems to
be speaking to us; He bids us look at him, consider the opera-
-tions of his hand, and humble ourselves before him. May
this be the effect of his dealings toward us, and toward all
mankind. -

Sept. 18th The resolution of the last sabbath has proved like others
which preceded it - ineffectual. Selfish plans and pursuits, seem to
prevent all benevolent effort. Still I would ask thee O my Fa-
-ther to aid and direct me to some effort which may be use-
-ful, and arouse me to more intense desires to do thy will.
We all went to N. excepting Mr. H. and Theophilus who
went to Lovett. and Theodore who stop in town. Mr. Stearns preached in the morning from Mat.
5th Blessed are the poor in spirit. In this afternoon Colossians
3d Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name &c -
[illegible]

went to Charles' at noon found all well, the babe growing finely. read a sermon on domestic happiness at noon. - I would give praise to God for the health and comfort we enjoy - for all the bounties of thy providence, for ease and tranquility of mind - and peace and harmony as a family. For these comforts O may my heart render its ~~[illegible]~~ tribute of praise, and be led by all these blessings to aspire after a union with thy self and thy son which shall make me a partaker of the divine image and likeness. - Confirm in us all the hope of heaven, holy resolutions to do thy will, and thus may we make progress toward heaven. May the word dispensed this day, be accompanied with the powerful operation of the blessed Spirit and all the means of instruction be abundantly blessed for the conversion of sinners and improvement of thy children.

Sept. 25th All went to N- except Mr. H- who went to hear Doct. Brown. Mr Stearns preached in the morning from the 2d chapter of Phillip. work out your own salvation &c - this afternoon from Proverbs - they that seek me early shall find me. He seems to have more zeal and strength, than he had before his journey; the Lord increase these graces more and more, and in mercy give efficacy to the means used - it seems desirable that more effort should be made to impress the minds of that society. True the sabbath comes very week - but do the people live during the week as expectants of heaven? - do they speak often one to another of the things concerning the kingdom? I fear not. Give to thy children more realising views of truth and duty - and let it be the all important inquiry with them what shall we do? and how shall we assist in building up the kingdom of Christ. - Grant that I and mine may be honoured as servants of our Divine Master, and be assisted to do and bear thy will. another week has brought us innumerable blessings. & that our gratitude may be manifested by more of the spirit of love and kindness, and zeal to do thy will & hear and ponder for Christ's sake.

Oct. 2^d 1836 We have again been permitted to come around the table of our divine Lord, and commemmorate his death. the sub=ject was brought to our view and to our thots, but my affections were not drawn forth as they should be. this is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. when mankind had become so corrupt, that there was no possibi=lity of reformation, then God so loved the world that he sent his own Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. O Father enable me to feel more deeply my unworthiness and may it bind me to more grateful trust, more humble and watchful obedience. may Jesus be more precious, and his spirit influence all my thoughts words, and actions. Mr Hears preached from these words this morning, For ye are not your own but ye are bought with a price &c. In the afternoon Proverbs 28th 6th Better is the poor that walk=eth in his uprightness, than he that is perverse in his ways, tho' he be rich. Theodore is quite unwell this even=ing, tho' he has been all day at N. he has a wound upon his leg which is inflamed, and has been chilly and sick. may God in mercy bless the means we are using, and restore him soon to activity and health. but let me not dictate. rather prepare us for all thy will whether it bring sickness or health life or death. but this one thing I must implore; that we may all be fitted by thy dealings with us here, to welcome death and enjoy thy presence and favour for ever, thro' Jesus our Saviour who is our advocate with the Father.

Oct. 9th Mr. Cunningham preached this morning from Timothy Godliness with contentment is great gain. this afternoon from Jonah. I do well to be angry even unto death. A very pleasing manner, and prepossessing appearance, also a fine writer, but there seems to want that deep inward feeling, and concern for the soul, which prompts a minister to hold up the sanctions of the divine truth as well as its promises and blessings. But the Spirit of God can give efficacy to his

our truth and without this influence Paul may plant, and Apollos water in vain. Yesterday Charles brot over his family and Mary, who is staying there, to spend the day with us. we had a friendly interview and I was able to bear my testimony to the worth of christian instruction to children. O Father assist me I pray thee to carry all my good intentions into execution, and suffer me not to be so idle and useless in the cause of my blessed master. If I have formed any good plans, be pleased to help me to bear them in mind and may I feel more deeply a sense of my responsibility, of the shortness of the time which remains to me here, and may I be more prayerful watchful and zealous. doing with my might whatsoever my hand find th to do—

During the last week, Theophilus has been been troubled with a pain in his shoulder, and Theodore has been laid up three or four days, with a wound on his leg.— But thro' the goodness of our God, who is kind to the evil and unthankful they have been relieved and restored to ease and activity. Bless the Lord O our souls.— may these and all the dealings of thine hand with us, be suitably regarded and improved and the fruit of all be to take away sin.—

Oct. 30th I have been to N— with F. H— and F. F. today. Mr. H— and B— went to Lovest.— Mrs. Fisher and some of the children stay'd with her. F. F. went in the morning to hear Doct. Brown. Mr Stearns preached in the morning from 17th John. I pray not that thou shouldst take &c on the temptation and danger, which attend us in our social state— This afternoon Mat. 5th— Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God— he addressed three classes, those engaged in active business— parents— and youth— with feeling and earnestness. May God who alone has the residue of the Spirit, apply it to the hearts of all who heard it and may all the means of grace which have been used this and attended to today be abundantly blessed for the good of souls—

Mr Fisher and his family came two weeks ago; they have been with us ever since. They have at length determined to board this winter at Miss Osborn's. Mr. Fisher left us last week wednesday. Mary ~~have~~ has been home with us since Mrs. F— came, but returned to N— yesterday to stay two or three months. May the blessing and pres=ence of Almighty God be with her always. May she hold daily constant and delightful communion with him and thus be furnished for every duty or difficulty.
Last sabbath we attended the funeral of Almira Wells. She seemed to enjoy the light of God's countenance and the foretaste of heaven. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Blessed be God for the hopes and promises of the gospel. May Christ be in all of us the hope of glory so that to live may be Christ and to die gain. —
Nov. 6th Mr Stearns preached with much earnestness in the morning from Proverbs- Her ways are ways of pleasantness &c- If christians do not find it so, it is because of the weakness of their faith- This afternoon the text was in Mat. 22d. 5th But they made light of it &c- addressed chiefly to men engaged in worldly pursuits- a very solemn and impressive sermon. God grant that it may awaken some souls to a sense of their danger and their duty. I would thank my heavenly Father for the enjoyment I have had this day he enabled me to rise before light and hold commun=ion with him in secret prayer. he gave me com=fort in the devotions of the family- he carried me to his house in peace, and granted me a season of refreshing in the duties of the sanctuary- O that I might live more to his glory in time to come.
Mrs. F and her family went to N— Friday, and today we called to see her and found her very pleasantly situated may she be qualified for the great work of training up her children for heaven. called at Charles's all well. offered to Fanny and the twins ninepence apiece if they would commit to memory 12th ch. Rom. before thanksgiving

Nov. 13th Mr H attended worship at Hadley - B. T. T. and H. went
with me to N-. Mr S- preached on the anniversary of his or=
=dination. In the morning from 2d Cor. 6th, 7th Behold now
is the accepted time &c - urging all to delay no longer the
business for which they were sent into the world - This after=
=noon 2d Cor. 1st - 24th Not for that we have dominion over your
faith &c - It seemed to be a looking over the time which
has passed since his connection with his people, and
an enquiry of them whether they had in their past acted
up to the resolutions which they then made. -
Last monday William came home and stayed with us
till yesterday, when he left us for Hubbardston, where
he is to supply a few sabbaths. He read ~~some of~~
two or three of his sermons; and they appear to be
dictated by the spirit of the gospel. - Bless the Lord O
my soul for all that thou has done for him, in him
and by him. Honour him I pray thee as an instrument
to promote thy glory; in turning sinners to thyself. -
and suffer him not to grow weary in well doing. - Follow
with thy blessing I pray thee all the instructions of
thy servants every where, and let thy kingdom come and
thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. -
Nov. 20th Edward went to Worcester last friday came back last evening
went over to N- with B. Theodore and myself. brot Mary
home with us. Mr Stearns preached from Do this in re=
=membrance of me. Luke 22d - 19th an earnest entreaty
to his people to come to the Lord's supper. This afternoon
John, Every branch in me that beareth fruit he purgeth
it that it may bear more fruit. - Shewing how we ought
to regard the word and providence of God. not as a token
of his anger but of his intention to prepare us to bring
forth much fruit. - went to Charles and Mr Fisher's
returned to church and read in Lawson's sermons. I would
thank God for all this days mercies thro' Jesus Christ. -

Nov. 27th Mr Fessenden preach'd in the morning from John 13
23d now there was leaning on Jesus bosom &c.— on friendship
this afternoon Phillippians 3d 21st who shall change our vile
body that it may be fashioned &c. stay'd at the church
and read with great satisfaction in Saurins sermons;
one on the neglect of educating children religiously, His
sons made themselves vile and he restrained them not.
Another from these words be not conformed to this world.
The last week has been marked with many temporal
favours.— O Father help me suitably to remember the[m]
and render thee in some small degree a suitable return
of gratitude and obedience— Prepare us all for the
day of thanksgiving, and let it not be a hypocritic[al]
service. awaken in all our hearts, and in the hearts
of all the people those sentiments which shall
excite to renewed zeal and fidelity in thy service for Jesu[s] sak[e]
Dec. 4th Sabbath evening— Edward has just taken leave of us, and set[s]
out from ex— tomorrow morning, for New Brunswick where
he expects to remain perhaps a year; Blessed be God that
I may think of him as a friend of the Redeemer. and
encircled in the arms of his mercy. At the mercy seat
as he observed this evening, we have a place of meeting
and if we never meet again here may we meet around
the throne of glory in heaven. This has been a most
interesting week.— Evening before thanksgiving Charles &
Mrs Fisher with Edward and Elisabeth came over to supper
next day we attended meeting and Charles and his family
and Mrs F and hers came over to dinner. and stay'd
till after nine. our religious exercises were very inter-
-esting, and I hope we did rejoice in the Lord— we
tho't and spoke of the departed— and praised God for
the hope of a reunion.— William arrived from H—

about 8 – the next day we all ate supper and spent the evening at Charles's – next morning at 5 William & Theodore left us – the latter is gone to Holden to keep school – tomorrow Frederic leaves to keep school in Amherst – only four of us left at home. But on every member of this dear family I beg thy blessing Almighty and most merciful Father. hold us all in thine hand and whatever of earthly good thou deniest us, O withhold not from us an interest in thy favour and preparation for death and heaven. We have been permitted once more to keep the solemn feast, to remember Christ at his table. Forgive our sins and strengthen our faith and love. text in the morning 1st Cor. 11th 23 – a most affectionate invitation to partake of this ordinance. This afternoon Mat. And why beholdest thou the mote &c – three verses. – Ann Jean Lyman seems to be going down. she was prayed for last sab. and today. and request. to be considered as a member of our church. O Father of mercies let this affliction be sanctified for the salvation of that family. – and now wilt thou look upon us all in thy mercy, pardon and bless us. And let a blessing follow all the instructions of thy servants – and may Jesus and salvation be the rejoicing of all hearts, and his kingdom come thro-out the world. –

Dec. 18th Theophilus and I went to N–n carried little Fanny who has been here since last sabbath. she is an example to us all – Is she not one of those who belong to the kingdom of heaven – O Father save her from the polluting influence of this wicked world – Doct. Williams preach'd in the morning from Romans 12th As we have many members in one body &c – very ingenious, and good – as the members of the body are governed and set in motion by the

will, so in communities, the controlling moving power must be the will of God. This afternoon the text was in the 12th chapter of Hebrews, 1st and 2d verses. Wherefore seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud &c. The weights we are to lay aside, are unbelief, party spirit, sensual gratification, the love of gain, vanity, or the desire of worldly applause— then we are to look unto Jesus, who has run the race before us and enlightened our path by his shining footsteps, we must also look to Jesus on the throne, for as he overcame and sat down with his Father so may we also if we overcome sit down with him in his throne. The cloud of witnesses who surround us, may be the patriarchs spoken of in the preceding chapter, and all the good who have lived and died in succeeding ages, our fathers and mothers and brothers & sisters, and husbands and wives, and children, we may imagine them looking at us attentively rejoicing when we walk in the strait path or weeping over our follies. May God grant his Spirit to accompany his word and bring many sons and daughters to glory— Mr Gean Dyman had prayers— O Father fit them all for thy holy will.

Dec. 25th The day which is celebrated as the birth day of our blessed Saviour; and it comes now on the Lord's day; so that we commemorate his birth and his resurrection at the same time. But are we sufficiently affected with those wonderful events?— for myself I know I am not— what joyful rapture burst forth, in the songs of the angelic hosts, who came to announce the tidings of the Saviours birth. O shame on our stupid indifference will it be thus forever?— may we not hope when freed from

these earthly attainments, and mortality shall be swallowed
up of life, that we shall be able to comprehend something
more of the heighth and depth, and length and breadth of
the love of God. For here is the origin of the gospel scheme
God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten
Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish
but have everlasting life. But to understand the wonders
of creation, providence and redemption tho' a high and
glorious privilege it is not all that I desire. No— To be
like the angels, to excel in strength, strength to do the
will of God— to be always active without weariness,
and holy without imperfection, in short to see Jesus
as he is and to be like him, this is the heaven to
which I hope to arrive, and in this blessed society
I hope to meet my dear departed children and friends
The day has been rainy. and B. and I stayed at
home. Last sabbath I was with Mrs Fisher, who had
a son born Friday before. may the divine goodness
she so signally experienced be suitably regarded by
her and all of us. Theodore came home from Holden
last tuesday, the school was a very bad one, and
as he had been deceived in the account of the
school, he did not feel bound to remain, He thot
too he should not be able to do much good.
Saturday evening— Jan. 7th 1837— The old year has passed away, and
borne its testimony to the good or ill that I have done, and
the solemn reckoning will come, when all will be judged
according to the things which are written. One member
of our family has been called to her final account.
A week ago last night about eleven o'clock she
ceased to breathe after having been attacked with a
fit twelve hours before. It was a solemn time.

The last offices were performed at midnight, by Mrs. Wright her daughter, myself and two daughters. Mr. H- went away in the morning to preach for Mr. Wel=lington of Templeton. The funeral was attended sab=bath afternoon. This seems like a call to me to be al=so ready. The new year opened upon us with death under our roof. God grant that it may be the means of impressing our minds more deeply than ever with a sense of our own mortality. It has brought to my mind many of my sins, of omission and some of commission for which I have felt the bitterness of remorse; may they be pardoned thro' the intercession of the great High Priest. No other sacrifice will avail. The sorrow which does not unite reformation is of little use. Shall I then hope for acceptance, if I again re=peat indulge those feelings which are so unwor=thy of a heart where the Spirit of God dwells? I most heartily humble myself before thee O thou Holy One, and pray that I may with this new year begin a new course of obedience to thee. But I am so weak and wicked, that I know I shall fail unless thou help me; send thine an=gels to guard me, and make me afraid and ashamed to indulge those feelings, which must cause sorrow in this world or in the world to come. I resign to thee for this year myself my family, all that I love, if we live may we live to thy glory and if thou call us hence, O give us a safe and easy passage from this life, to the rest of thy people in heaven. thro our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Jan. 15th Sabbath morning. 11 — Mr. H. is at Templeton today, and next sabbath expects to preach at Athol. Frederic is come home Friday evening, and he with B— T. and T. have gone to worship at N—n. I prize such solitude, which leaves me a warm room, in which I can indulge my serious thoughts and devout exercises. Not that I wish always to be alone, but I do esteem it a privilege sometimes to spend a few hours alone. May the spirit of God enable me to improve it acceptably to God, and to my own advancement in holiness. — Since Rene's death we are more pressed with cares and labours; and beside the weather is so cold that retirement seems to be difficult; and I fear I am losing ground as to spirituality of thought and communion with God and holy beings. I fear I have driven away, by my evil dispositions, and temper, those blessed angels, who in times past have condescended to minister unto me. And I would make it a subject of special prayer this week, that God would restore to me the joy of his salvation, and uphold me by his free Spirit, and in order that this may be done, I pray for more of that strength which is made perfect in weakness, that I may be able to overcome in my mind and heart, all those evil propensities and sinful feelings, which prevent the communications of thy light and peace to my soul. Truly I can appeal to thee, who search-est the heart that I desire more earnestly, to be purified from sin, than to obtain any earthly object. If I am deceived, convince me of it, and help me to walk with thee, in all lowliness and gentleness, looking more stedfast-ly at the things which are unseen and eternal.

Jan. 22d A very stormy day and we all stay at home. We have had a peaceful sabbath, health and temporal blessings in abundance and books of all sorts to read; what more can we desire? — A throne of grace, a prayer hearing God, an interceding Saviour and the hope of heaven! — With all these mercies

were our hearts unmindful of our obligations, the very stones would cry out. - The last week we were very much occupied, and saturday night found me weary and stiff. The sabbath is a blessed institution. How kind in our heavenly Father to give us this rest from worldly labours and care, and this precious season, in which we may converse with eternal realities, study the records of divine truth, examine our hearts and lives, hold communion with God and Christ, meditate on the glorious rest which this day typifies, and send up our prayers that we may become partakers of that glory in the life to come. Father of mercies give thy Son the heathen for his inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for his possession. Say to the north give up, and to the south keep not back. And to this end wilt thou prosper and bless all the efforts which are made to abolish war, and slavery and intemperance, and spiritual domination, and all the works of darkness, and may thy kingdom come and thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven - Thro' Jesus our great Mediator. -

Feb. 4th 1837 - Saturday evening. It is somewhat remarkable, that on the first day of Jan. I attended a funeral, and today on my birth day I have again attended a funeral, and in the intervening time I cannot tell how many deaths I have heard of. Lucy Ann Brown, closed her mortal life, on thursday morning, and today we have seen her mortal remains committed to their kindred earth. Doct. Humphrey preached a sermon from these words in Ecclesiastes A good name is better than precious ointment

and the day of one's death, better than the day of one's birth. Considering the sin and temptation and suffer=ing that belong to the present state, it may be well affirmed that the day of ones death is better than the day of ones birth. But is it necessary to represent this life as a scene of misery, in order to prove, that heaven is better than earth? If we can realize in some degree, the felicity of dropping, with this earthly tabernacle, the sins and sorrows, the darkness and doubts of mortality, and if we can gain some sense of the purity and peace, the strength of love, and the activity of zeal, which pervades and animates the minds of the heavenly hosts, we should wonder that any should be willing to remain in this dark bewildered state. I have had my tho'ts much employed to day upon my advanced age. It would not be strange, if this year should close my earthly course. I would make it a subject of daily prayer that I may be assisted to ascertain more clearly my true state as known by the searcher of hearts, and be able to find myself actually making progress toward heaven. Tomorrow we expect to celebrate the Lord's supper. may it be a season of refreshing to all.

March 4th 1837 - It is four weeks since I have opened this desk to record the goodness of the Lord, and to stir up my mind in this way, to a consideration of those obliga=tions which urge me to make progress in the heaven=ly life. Last week I spent four days with Helen, while Mary made a visit at home. I am not sure that I led the way as much as I ought, to religious conver=

=sation, I am certain my thoughts are not as they should be, fixed upon things heavenly and divine. Last thursday Mr H- went with me to visit at Mr Hopkins. Monday our dear Frederic returned to College- and Edward went with him to take the stage for Boston. I say dear Frederic; as he is the youngest, it will be difficult to lay aside the feelings of tenderness, which are called forth by infancy and youth.

Since the death of Rene Cook, my time has been more entirely engrossed by household du=ties than before; which made it rather difficult to attend to some things which were desirable. I therefore spread the case before him who know=eth our frame, and remembereth that we are dust, entreating that, if it should be his will, he would prepare and bring to us some per=son, who should be useful to us, and to whom we might do some good. Such a girl I hope has been sent to us. The circumstances have been rather peculiar, and at present I would hope that it is the Lord's doing. I have one earnest request to make to him who has so kindly pro=vided for us- and it is this, that my feelings toward her may be ever kind. That the failings which I may find in her may be covered with the mantle of charity. That I may be kind gen=tle, forbearing, endeavouring to secure her regard and respect, that I may be able the more effectu=ally to improve and purify her immortal spirit. Mr H- and W. gone to Athol. O Father grant to us all wherever we are a sabbath blessing thro' Jesus Christ.-

March 19th 1837 Sabbath noon. Frederic came home yesterday and is gone with Mary and Ed Fisher, to N— T— and J. gone to hear Doctr. Brown. Mr. H— at Athol, ~~and William~~ where he has engaged to preach, till October. William at Springfield. Maria at home with me. She has been with us a fortnight, and fully equals my expectations. She has a great fondness for reading the testament, and attends to her sabbath lessons very diligently. I have great hope that she may become (if she is not already) a humble and devout christian. I feel greatly, the obligations which lie upon me with respect to her. I asked of the Lord a person of this description — and I would regard the circumstance of her coming, as ordered by Him, who numbers the hairs of our heads. I would again pray that our residence together may be for our mutual benefit — so that we may be prepared by it, to unite in the pure and sublime services of the heavenly world. —

A week ago last Friday, Charles and his family, and Mrs. F. baby and E— made us a visit. Mary was sick with influenza. In the evening Mr. Aspinwall, and H. Shepherd came to sing. — Last sabbath, Bethia went to Leverett with William — T. and J. to Hadley in the morning. I stayed with Mary, who began to feel relieved. Monday she was out comfortable; Tuesday B. had the sick headache, wednesday or Thursday her father carried her to N— to stay with Helen.

In view of all the way in which I have been led, I would lift up my heart to God, in devout thanksgivings for his unmerited favours — and entreat of him thro' Jesus Christ those supplies of his spirit which may enable me to serve him more faithfully and acceptably than heretofore. And may the best even spiritual blessings rest on our dear family and friends and all mankind thro' Jesus Christ.

April 2d. Sabbath evening. The Lord's supper has been admin-
-istered at N— and T. T. and I attended. Bettina was
there, and Mary stay'd at home with Maria—.
Mr H— went to Montague friday, on his way
to Athol, where he expects to spend the present
week, preach for them on fast day and the next
sabbath. William went to Springfield yesterday.
Last sabbath he preach'd at N— to accommodate
Mr Stearns. I hope I am not wholly unmindful of the
great goodness of God in producing in him such a
change, as that from being an avowed unbeliever
he should become a preacher of the faith which he
once endeavoured to destroy.— My heavenly
Father only knows the anguish which I have
endured on his account.— But it is overbalanced
by the assurance which I feel that his heart
is right with God, and that he is devoting his
time talents and services to the advancement
of the kingdom of Jesus Christ.— May the Holy
Spirit ever dwell in his heart, and lead him
into all truth and duty. May the people of
this state be prepared to keep a day of fasting &
prayer, in such a manner as to find acceptance
with the God of our lives.— Mr Stearns preach'd
in the morning from Luke— For what advantageth
it a man if he shall gain &c— on the evil of sin.
This afternoon Mat. 7th. If ye then being evil, know &c
on the efficacy of prayer.— William's sermon last sab-
-bath morning was from the 3d chapter of Proverbs, 13th or

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom &c, in the afternoon his text was in St. John's gospel 1st chapter 39th verse. Come and see. I would once more acknowledge the goodness of God to me and mine. Our lives and health and comfort have been preserved, and such provision has been made for my ease and leisure, as to give me time for devotional exercises, and charitable employments. I pray that I may not neglect or misspend these opportunities, but so improve them as to honour thee my heavenly Father, do some good to my fellow beings and promote the purity and salvation of my own soul. Hear my prayers I beseech thee for my self my dear family and children and all whom I love, the cause of truth and righteousness and peace throughout the world thro' Jesus Christ amen.
Sabbath. April 9th Last thursday was the annual Fast. William preached for Mr. Stearns, (who is very feeble) in the morning; we returned at noon as there was no religious service in the afternoon. Text was in Psalms, "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" He gave a very lively picture of the calamities of War, and in illustration brought the case of my grandfather, without mentioning the name. Friday Theodore went with me to N. Today T. and J. gone there to worship. Three females of us at home. I pray that the time may not be lost to us. Again the joyful spring is advancing. Hitherto the weather has been cold, and the ground is not yet settled. But his word is settled in heaven. While the earth remaineth cold and heat, summer and winter seed time and harvest day and night shall not cease. While he spares our lives he will give the supplies necessary for their support. Some of our dearest friends have been removed from this world, and we regard them as the inhabitants of a brighter world, & the companions of pure and holy beings. When shall we become fit for the same happy home and the same glorious society? O my Father in thy own way and time perfect that which concerneth us. and help us to render praise eternal to God and the Lamb. amen

April 23d. The family are all gone to attend worship. Two sons & two daughters at N. Maria at Hadley, and William Wa=ters at N. H. I have had another still time. Have been reading letters from those who have passed into the spirit=ual world, and thus have brought back the "scenes of other years." From the letters of my dear mother, writ=ten while I lived in Litchfield, and in Middletown, I find that I had little comfort in religion, tho' to enjoy and practice it was the supreme desire of my heart. She on the other hand, seemed to have a firm hold of the promises, and lived in the clear manifestation of the favour of God. Since that, I have passed thro' the fire and the water, have seen my dear parents pass into the eternal world, have watched with agoniz=ing spirit the dying beds of my departing children, gentle and beautiful, strong and ardent for the ser=vice of their redeemer; and have been led by an un=seen hand, thro the dark valley, and amid the horrid and fiery darts of satan, into a region of light and love and joy. Here I have found meat to eat that the worldly know nothing of. I have had the food of angels, and lived upon the hidden manna. Instead of the buffetings of satan, angels have been my companions, and the favour of God my un=speakable delight. — And now what return can I make for favours so vast. A broken and a contrite heart O God thou wilt not despise. Mean unworthy and ignorant as I am, if I have this spirit he will not cast me away. — Bethia came home Friday. we are again together and in health. May our health and strength be employed in the service of him who gives us all things richly to enjoy.

Last sabbath Mr Fessenden preached at N. Wednesday William left us to go to Plymouth, to be ordained as an evangelist for a mission to Illinois. — The Lord be with him. the name of the God of Jacob defend him and all we love for Christ's sake.

April 30th Bethia staid at home alone, the rest of us, were disposed of as we were last sabbath. Doct. Willard preached in the morning from Exodus, 2d 9th Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. On the importance of educating the young. - This afternoon Acts 26th 25th I am not mad most noble Festus &c- We have had a gentle refreshing rain, this afternoon. which was much needed, and yesterday and today are the weather has been warm and spring like.. The Lord is merciful he does not punish us as our sins and ingratitude deserve, but follows us with his blessings, I pray that I may exercise something of the same spirit, toward those who are erring and wayward. O Father help me to be patient, forgiving longsuffering, kind tender hearted even as God for Christs sake forgives us. Let the Holy Spirit accompany all the means of grace which have been employed there; out the Christian world, and may Jesus reign King of nations as he is king of sts.

May 7th Mary and Francis Fisher, walked to Hadley- the rest of us went to N- excepting Theophilus who staid at home. Mr Stearns preached in the morning from John, 16th 32d. And yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. He informed us that the sabbath school would be all the exercise for this afternoon, of course we are at home. We had a visit from Mr. Fisher, and his family last tuesday, they left Francis who is to stay here six weeks. Friday we sent for Mr Brown and his family and Cotton [?] and his wife. Mr Frost and Miss Brown came, and Mrs Phelps. Charles brought over his wife and children the same day and the thunder and rain kept them here all night. I ask of thee O Father thy assistance for all future duties. For the morrow which is the birth day of Mrs. F. and Catherine, may I observe it suitably and may it not be unprofitable help me to be more circumspect, and may I be able to practice the duty of loving others as myself, more diligently. My deficiencies are great. May my penitence be answerable. Frederic came home

with us from the exhibition which we all attended excepting Be-
-thia. I pray that our intercourse may be more serious &
improving, and that folly and levity may have no place
among us. - I have great cause to bless God, for his goodness
to our family. - For the health of our bodies, and for all
that is amiable and lovely in the characters of our chil-
-dren, increase it I beseech thee an hundred fold, and may
the gospel be published to all lands, and Jesus reign from
sea to sea and from the river to the ends of the earth.

May 14th The family have gone to N- and M- to H. - I have had a
time, and a favourable season for devotion. I have just consum
in the fire four vols of novels, ~~the the~~ the reading of which
would only tend to dissipate the mind, unfit it for the
sober realities of life, beside consuming precious time, whic
ought always to be employed for the glory of God, and the
good of ~~ourselves~~ or others. - Bethia expects to stay with
Mrs F- thro' the week, and Elizabeth is coming home in h
place. We had a letter from William thursday. dated at Buffa
Tuesday morning Mr H- Frederic and the girls went with
me to N- ~~[illegible]~~ staid till yesterday, and I came
back wednesday noon. - The cousins drank tea here the
same day. - I have great cause to praise the Lord, for h
goodness to me in granting me tranquility of mind,
and in so ordering events as to preserve me from
my easily besetting sin. - My mind has been exercised
to day upon the subject of doing good, and I can sa
with truth that I do indeed desire to be directed as
to some course of exertion which shall be beneficial
to others. O thou from whom all good desires procee
aid and guide me with thy heavenly grace. I commi
commit myself and all my dear ones to thy faithful &
merciful care, entreating thee to do for us and ours and
thy whole human family more and better than we c
can ask or think thro' Jesus Christ our Lord and Savio

May 21st 1837. I am at home alone again. I desire to pour out my hea
with the deepest gratitude to God that my mind is still undistu

and that I may still indulge the hope of arriving at that
state, where we shall be no more pained with the remem=
=brance of past imperfections, failures in duty, violations
of the law of charity; stupidity, unbelief & selfishness, in
short where we shall be free from sin. – What a glorious
hope is this! Last week wednesday, enjoyed some heavenly
contemplations with my aged aunt, who was here with her
daughter Mrs. Tait from Spencertown. – Monday evening Mr.
Maxey Fisher came here and was detained by the rain,
till wednesday morning. An unusual quantity of rain
has fallen the last week, God grant that it may not injure
the seed which has been planted. Our political hemisphere
seems to be overcast with dark and threatening aspects. However
the Lord reigns. Blessed truth! He can cause the wrath
of man to praise him and the residue thereof he can
restrain. He can still the tumult of the people, make
every heart submit to him and reign gloriously King
in Zion. Not long ago I had a most realizing sense of
the Infinite power of God, as manifested in saving
sinners. The helplessness of our condition, without the
grace of the gospel is not perhaps sufficiently felt.
But the Almighty has undertaken, he who made
upholds and governs the universe, has undertaken
to destroy the works of the devil, and having laid help
on one that is mighty, the sincere believer need fear
no evil. Glory to God in the highest on earth peace, good
will to men. – amen. even so come Lord Jesus. –
May 28th This is the birthday of our departed Whiting and of our remaining
Frederic – I have not thot of it till now – of course some of the
peculiar birth-day duties must be attended to on another day.
Last week I observed a ~~day~~ season for Charles's birth day. – May
I not hope that these seasons of humiliation and prayer have
been ~~seen~~ the means of good to my family. Thou knowest that
tho' with much imperfection, yet also with much earnestness

and deep solitude I have observed these seasons, and if it wa[illegible]
from thy spirit the fruit is sure. I would still wait and seek
for spiritual blessings on myself and all mine. Not for the
fading and dangerous indulgences of the present life do I seek.
but for the holiness and purity of Jesus. He is all my
salvation and all my desire — we all attended worship at
excepting Bethia and Maria — Mr Hubbard preached teacher
of the high school — text in Timothy, "all scripture is given
by inspiration &c" — Mary spent last week with Helen's
sister.. D today. Frederic and I went over with her monday
June 4th Today we all went over to N— excepting Mary who staid
at home with Maria who is sick, and who will probably
have to be carried ~~home~~ back to the poor house from whence
we took her. She is a poor diseased child but the workma[illegible]
ship of God, and under his care; may he purify her by her
afflictions and at length receive her to himself. Last monday
I observed on account of the birth day of our dear W. G. F.
wednesday Charles & his family came over and dined with us
In the afternoon Frederic returned to College. He has been
home again to day having obtained leave to spend the sabba[illegible]
at home during this term. It is a great privilege that we
can so often meet, and hold intercourse upon subjects
solemn and important as eternity: may we not misim[illegible]
prove or neglect these precious opportunities. Friday Mr.
H— carried Mary to N— where she staid till last night, the[illegible]
Charles brought her home. today we carried Fanny home, wh[illegible]
has spent a week with us. The weather for a week past has
been very favourable for vegetation. O that men would
praise the Lord for his goodness and his wonderful works to
the children of men. Mr. Bullfinch of Augusta Georgia prea[illegible]
-ed today we were all gratified with his exercises and [illegible]
instructed. At noon we were told that he was violently oppos[illegible]
to Abolitionism. But God can turn his heart and incline
him yet to preach the truth which he would now [illegible]

destroy. Heavenly Father, be pleased to convince men of influence and learning of their duty, and make many to become willing instruments of spreading the benevolent principles of the gospel who are now blinded by prejudice or party spirit.
Provide for us of this family all that assistance which shall be best for us, and so order our circumstances, as to fit us for the perfect purity and peace of heaven.
Friday Theophilus left home for Abington. The Lord be with him bless him and return him in safety. —

June 11th We have all attended public worship and the ordinance of the Lord's supper at N– excepting Mr. H– who supplies at [illegible] this summer. Mr. Bullfinch preached again most acceptably the Lord accompany it with the demonstration of the spirit and with power. His text in the morning was in John 12th 27th 28th now is my soul troubled – &c This afternoon Acts 16th 31st Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt &c
I would notice with grateful emotions the blessings of the last week and the enjoyment of this holy sabbath. that my mind has been so free to engage in religious duties, and so ready to receive comfort from them. To the God of all grace be all the praise, thro' his beloved son in whom he is well pleased. Theophilus returned last monday in safety – Tuesday Mr. H. carried Maria back. Wednesday Mrs. Fisher and Mrs Rand with their children called on us. and left Frederic to stay with Francis till the sabbath. Today they both went home. To morrow we expect the Unitarian Association to meet here. Thus week after week rolls on, and brings nearer to our eternal home. Thanks to God that ~~the thought~~ of death is not terrifying I would cheerfully leave the time and all the circumstances with him who does all things well. – May the sins of this holy day be forgiven, and may Jesus reign universally King of nations as he is King of saints. –

June 18th Four of us went to N–, left Theodore and Mary at home with Mr. Brown who works for Theophilus. Mr. Bullfinch preached again, his manner is very pleasing, and his sentiments well agree with the gospel – thus far. I have prayed that God

would send us a man for the summer, who should be full of faith and the Holy Ghost, should feel a deep concern for souls and be able to turn many to righteousness. Again I would implore thy blessing on his labours. This text in the morning was in Genesis 1st 10th And God saw that it was good. This afternoon Luke 18th The parable of the Pharisee and Publican. It is proper that we should ~~thank~~ thank God that he has kept us from vices into which others have fallen, and give to him all the praise, but never can we claim a reward for services the most perfect. much less for the polluted and sinful offerings which we bring..
The association met on monday, left tuesday after dinner. Doct. Willard Mr Fessenden, Mr. Harding, Mr. Rogers Mr. Stearns Mr Bullfinch Mr Everett. After they were gone call'd at Martha's and drank tea. next day went to Hatfield from there to N— stay'd in the evening to hear Mr. Birney give an Anti Slavery lecture. Friday our young people had company. — had a letter from Edward and William last week — O Father hear and answer the prayers which have been offered to thee this day in public and in private, and hasten the time when thy light and thy truth shall be spread thoughout the world, when Jesus shall overcome him who hath the power of death, that is the devil, and when his kingdom shall rule over all.
June 25th We have all been permitted again to attend worship at N— Mr B. preached again, and the truth was a cordial to my heart. how delightful are such exhibitions of the gospel. May I not say that my prayers have been answered? Accompany thy word by the energy of thine Allmighty Spirit that many may be converted unto thee. Text in the morning Psalm 19th Who can understand his errors

cleanse thou me from secret faults. this afternoon
Matthew came unto me &c--- May the divine Spirit
bless all the means of instruction till the world shall
be full of the knowledge of God as the waters fill the sea-

July 2d - 1837 - I have been at home today - spent the time chiefly
in reading and prayer - I regret that I did not know there
was a vacant seat, but hope it will be for the best..
For two or three weeks past, I have had more strength
and less of the pains of old age than before. But I would not on
this account, forget that my life is drawing to a close.
May God impress this truth more deeply on my mind,
and may I with the devoutest gratitude remember all
the goodness which has crowned my life. Especially do
I notice his mercy in regulating my mental powers,
and granting me the hope of heaven. In preventing
the accuser of the brethren from destroying my peace.
The words of Christ to Peter were, "I have prayed for thee
that thy faith fail not." And I too have hoped that
he would pray for me. I would make the prayer
of the disciples mine. "Lord increase my faith." I would
notice the goodness of God in providing employment
for our second son - and giving him acceptance
with those to whom he ministers. Be pleased to
furnish him more abundantly for his work and
make him successful in it. Today had a letter from
Edward - O Father surround him with thy light and
fill him with thy love. Last wednesday Charles and
his family and H. Mills made us a visit. I have thot
of some suggestions which I wish to make to Charles -
hope I shall not forget or neglect them. The weather is
delightful today, yesterday very warm. May we be invig-
orated by this sabbath for the labours and duties of the week
and may the truth reign and be glorified thro' Jesus Christ.

July 9th B— and Theodore at home, the latter at Hatfield in the morning— the rest of us went to N— Mr. B— preached in the morning from Acts— To the unknown God. Tho' we are a nation of christians, How many apparently are ignorant of God & his perfections & his laws. Such are without excuse.— This afternoon the text was in Corinthians 15th chapter. But some man will say how are the dead raised up, and with what body do they come?— Doct. David Hunt's funeral was ~~to be~~ attended after the exercises. There was a very full house this afternoon, God grant a blessing upon the exercises of ~~ordinances~~ of his worship. We had a letter from William last week informing us that he had an attack of ague and fever. We can only commend him to a covenant keeping God. That God who is every where present, and who will keep his children as the apple of his eye, I invoke on his behalf. Spare him if it be thy will, and let him serve thee yet in this life. But above all grant him the comforts of the Holy Spirit, the good hope which maketh not ashamed. Bethia and I went to N. ~~wednesday~~ Thursday— call'd as we came home, at Col. Porter's— yesterday Sarah Brown and Miss Foster call'd here. Friday Theophilus' house was raised; at his request Mr. H— made a prayer before the raising. The business was all conducted with decorum, and I hope we felt some suitable sense of the goodness of God on this occasion.— and now I would close this blessed sabbath with an earnest prayer that all the means of religion which have been employed this day may be accompanied with thy blessing and that great numbers may from this time become the followers of Christ. Be with all of us this week and may we be constantly preparing to join the general assembly and church of the first born among whom we hope to meet our dear departed children and friends.— Thro' Jesus Christ.—

July 16th This is Williams birth day— 33 years since he became a probationer for eternity— I have endeavoured to look back

to the time of his birth, and glancing at the succeeding period have seen him throwing away the bright prospect of heaven-ly glory, and confessing himself an unbeliever. But the anguish of that season was not to last always. A covenant-keeping God followed him in his wanderings, arrested his progress, and established him in the good hope of the gospel. And now he would gladly be an humble instrument to spread the truth. Employ him as such, I beseech thee for Jesus sake. We have all been permitted again to attend worship at N. Mr. B. preached from Romans 8th 21st the glorious liberty of the children of God. This afternoon Phillip. 2d 12th Work out your own salvation &c. Mary spent the week at Charles's - Friday Bethia and I call.d at Deacon Dickinson and Giles's. I have been favoured with a tranquil frame of mind, for which I would praise the Lord. - The forepart of this day was able to raise my thots frequently to God in prayer & praise. But my feelings are variable, and I sometimes feel a depression of spirits, which renders every subject dark. The Lord pardon and subdue every unworthy thot and feeling within me. Last week Theodore had a sick turn, but kept about his business and was mercifully preserved and restored. And now I ask thee O Father to furnish me to the duties of this week and the remaining duties of life. - Take not away my hope. Suffer me not to stand still when there is yet very much land to be possessed. Carried a catechism to Fanny may it be useful. I ask a blessing on the word preached both by our minister and every where. and may Jesus become King of nations as he is King of saints.

July 23 I wrote to William last week - and we had a letter from him ~~Friday~~ written in a sick bed - where he had been confined 14 days with the lake fever. In his solitude he had time to think of the solemn realities of

of religion. He expressed submission to the Divine will, and a desire that God would glorify his own name. The event of this sickness is at the dispose of Infinite wisdom, and goodness. If his life may be spared, may it be more entirely devoted to the salvation of souls. This seems to be his earnest desire. Mr. B. preached this morning from 2d Corinthians 5th 7th We walk by faith not by sight — This afternoon 1st Epistle of John He that saith he hath no sin is a liar. &c. God is faithful and just to forgive &c. just because he has promised pardon to the penitent. Harriette Mills staid here two or three days Charles and his family came over Thursday, and dined here, left her and came again for her last evening. Mrs. H— spent the day here yesterday. Almighty Father hear and answer the prayers of thy people and fill the world thy glory thro' Jesus our Redeemer —

July 30th We all went to N— Mr. B— preached from Matthew 21st 28th & on ward — described various characters and urged all to obey the Divine command. this afternoon 1st Corinthians 11th On partaking of the Lord's supper. — may the divine Spirit apply the instruction to the heart and conscience — Last Tuesday Mr. Wellington wife Son and Daughter dined here. Friday Mrs. Stitch.. and Martha drank tea here with Francis. Had a letter from William, saying that he had so far recovered his health as to be on his way towards Hillsborough — Praise the Lord O my soul, and may this sickness be the mean

of promoting the kingdom of the Redeemer. Friday was the anniversary of our dear Whiting's death. My thoughts were much occupied with the subject, and I fervently besought that his departure might not be without its use to us all. These were the days also of heart rending sorrow and anxiety caused by the distressing sickness of our dear Catharine. May these seasons never return upon us without a suitable improvement. As our lives wear away, may we all be enabled to see by the eye of faith that promised land whither our ~~xxx~~ dear children and friends have gone; and examine ourselves by the rules of the gospel, to ascertain whether we are preparing for that pure and peaceful state. Lord increase our faith, our hope our love and zeal, and show us what we ought to do.– Accompany with thy blessing all the means of grace which have been employed this day and let the truth every where be known and the man of sin and the power of sin be destroyed by the breath of thy mouth and the brightness of thine appearing.–

August 6th 1837– We have all partaken of the elements which represent the body and blood of Christ. Mr. B. made many impressive remarks before administering the ordinance. His sermon was upon the presence of Christ with his people. I will not leave you comfortless I will come unto you. He comes by the gospel, and especially is he present at his own table, where his children in sincerity and with lively gratitude and love remember and endeavour to honour him. Both last sabbath and today he has been urging his hearers to observe this blessed ordinance, O Father let it not be in vain!– This afternoon the text was in Joshua 25th 15th And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose ye this day whom ye will serve. Addressed to young men.– O Spirit of God and of Christ apply it to the hearts and consciences – O let some at least from this time devote themselves to thee. After service he read a notice of an address which was to be delivered in the town Hall, this evening

on the subject of Anti-Slavery. I was sorry that he found it necessary to make an apology, or rather to say that his own views differed widely he did not doubt, from what would be express'd at this meeting, but that in this free country every one was at liberty to examine for himself. - Why was he obliged to say any thing about it. The reason doubtless is, his wife is a daughter of a slaveholder. O How familiarity with sin hardens the heart. How can a follow=er of Christ, approve of that system which withholds the knowledge of God and duty from thousands of human beings and treats as brutes those helpless, but still immortal creatures, which have been formed in the image of God, and purchased by the blood of Christ - Great Parent of men, and Gov=ernor of all worlds, pity thine oppress'd degraded helpless children and give success to the means which are in operation to bring them to the enjoyment of freedom and happiness. -
Mr. B. alluded to his intended departure, and with much earnestness entreated all who were still undecided with re=gard to religion to choose without delay. He particularly urged young men to attend to these points in their con=duct. 1st industry. 2d - selfcontrol. attention to relative and domestic duties, temperance and purity, and as the crown of all and without which all else would be in vain, religious principle. Last tuesday I drank tea with Mrs H- at Mrs. Ward's.. next day our sons and daughters made a visit at Martha's. We found Helen unwell, - Fanny sick and the other children affected with cold.. advised Fanny to repeat hymns while she was alone, she said she did not want to. - O Father make her to love thee even in her infancy. -

August 13th 1837 - Theodore and I stay at home today. Eunice Phelps came friday evening, and she with the rest of the family went to Tuesday Mr Fisher and all the family made us a visit. Fanny

she is very feeble, looks like an angel about to take its flight. Lord fit her for thy self. ~~Next tuesday~~ will be the anniversary of our dear Catherine's departure. The season, the face of nature, the musick of the birds, the air, the humming of the insects, the showery and the shining day, and the glittering stars, and the [illegible] waning moon, all speak of the departed; they bring back to my heart, the anguish of those nights and days, which brought no refreshment to the decaying sufferer. This was heartache. But God, who supports with one hand while he corrects with the other, has carried me thro', not only thro' this bereavement, but has rescued me from the power of darkness, and led me thro' another heavy affliction, and by all these means has given me the cheering strong hope of a purer state and an endless life. Glorious hope! well worth the care & toil and pain and suffering of the present state. Thanks to God, my love to him and his cause does not abate. Nor does my indifference to sensual objects diminish. May he continue to cheer me and lead me onward in the path of holiness and peace even when it shall conduct thro' the dark valley of the shadow of death. O Father may this sabbath witness the conversion of multitudes - and may there be joy in heaven this day over repenting pardoned sinners.

August 20th Heard Mr. Peabody preach to day. In the morning from Jeremiah, the harvest is past the summer is ended and we are not saved. - A most solemn and impressive sermon. May God accompany it with his heavenly influence. This afternoon, Genesis 4th If thou dost well shalt thou not be accepted? - Love to God and man, and a corresponding life, the only sure ground of acceptance. The quiet of this sabbath has been interrupted greatly since coming from church. Order is heaven's first law. and when my own children interrupt the harmony of our social arrangements, it grieves me. In a world full of strange characters and different dispositions tastes &

habits, we have great need of firmness, a quality which some
would call obstinacy. If we would adhere strictly to the rule
of rectitude, we must learn to sacrifice in some instances the
good opinion of our friends. The glare of outward show, is
too apt to dazzle the eyes of the young, and blind them
to the snares which lie concealed beneath. Against these
dangers what is our security?- A humble close walk with
God. Constant, frequent, fervent prayer. Eunice Phelps
a daughter of cousin John, has been here more than a
week. May her visit be productive of good and not evil,
Called at Charles and Elizabeths. Fanny is better, was out
this morning. but is still very thin. - And now O Father
~~follow~~ with thy blessing, the truths of thy word which have
this day been spoken, and may all the means of religion be
abundantly blessed to the salvation of souls.

Augt 27th Theophilus Mary F and myself went to N. Bethany and
Eunice staid at home. - Theodore went to Hadly - This morn-
ing Mr. Peabody preached from John's Gospel, 1st chapter 14th
verse. And the word was made flesh and dwelt among us -
God made himself known in ancient times by his works, and
by the patriarchs and prophets, but these manifestations
were not sufficient to lead man to holiness; he
then sent his son to be a complete representative and
image of himself; to manifest his attributes and
character and his designs concerning our sinful race
Christ did not come into the world to save men from
the wrath of the Father, ~~because~~ had this been his
object, his character instead of being one with that
of the Father would have been utterly at variance with
it - he came to accomplish the purposes of mercy which
the Father had devised. and by his own conduct to act

out the Divine perfections, and in a visible form to shew
us the Father. This afternoon the text was in Matt-28
6th verse, He is not here, for he is risen as he said. Come see
the place where the Lord lay. - The resurrection of Christ is
an event which should fill us with gratitude and
delight - we are creatures of sense, and we need the
aid of our senses in spiritual things. When we read
of the ascension of our Saviour, a glory seems to
illumine the parting cloud. And when we stand upon
the mount of transfiguration in company with Moses
and Elias, we seem to be on the confines of heaven.
We have probably heard his voice ^Mr Peabody's for the last time - but
my prayers shall follow him, that he may enjoy much
of the divine presence, and be signally blessed, as a
preacher of righteousness. Allmighty Parent, accompany
the preaching of thy word with thy heavenly grace.
and let it not return unto thee void - may it have
free course run and be glorified, untill the world
shall be filled with thy glory as the waters cover the sea.
Sept. 3d. Eunice Phelps left us yesterday, In the afternoon F- and I went
to N- and Charles and his family called here. Today Theophilus
Theodore Mary and Frederic went to N- As our Society had no
preaching, they went to the old Church, came back at noon
I have been reading Clarke's commentary on Hebrews 12th and
other passages.. The last week, I had many heavenly thots
but even these are mingled with much sin. O the
blessedness of that state where we shall never, never sin.
Here our desires to serve God are faint and ineffectual, our
faith in unseen things weak, and often the whole mind under
a cloud of doubt and despondency. I think often of dropping
this burden of mortality. God grant that I may be prepared
to mount aloft, and be forever with the Lord, Which blessings I ear=
nestly desire for all mine thro' Jesus Christ.

Sept. 10th 1837 - Bethia Mary and F— went to N—n with me. T. and J. went to Hadley. We heard Mr. Thurston. His text in the morning was in John 1st 17th The Law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. The dispensation of the gospel, is one of love and truth. It offers no compulsion, but seeks to rectify the mind and heart. This after noon The Kingdom of heaven is within you. Mr. Stearns was at church this afternoon. Last week Tuesday Simeon Huntington and wife came from Lebanon. Staid till Thursday morning. - In the afternoon Mrs. Fisher came over with Miss Osborne, and brot little Catherine. Mr H and I were down in town, and did not come home till about tea time, I called on Martha and Mrs. Doctor Porter. - Having the charge of company takes off the mind from heavenly objects. Too much labor also interrupts devotional feelings - O Father of those sent best thou canst provide help for us thou alone knowest what is best. I would have every want with thy wisdom and goodness, order every thing for us both in life and death as shall best promote our holiness, and the kingdom of thy Son. All I ask is in his name -

Sept 17th Frederic went to Athol this morning to exchange horses the rest of us excepting B— went to N— Mr Stearns preach in the morning from Matthew On the temptation of Jesus - this afternoon 51st Psalm, 4th verse Against thee, thee only &c If our repentance does not regard God as its chief object, it is not acceptable in his sight. - Bethia spent two or three days at Charles', last week, and Fanny came home with her, and staid till today. Tomorrow morning Bethia & Theodore expect to leave us for Wilbington with Theophilus, ~~for Wilbington~~ who intends to be married on wednesday morning - They hope to return on Thursday - May God in his mercy smile upon this connexion and make it subservient to their eternal happiness - I would cheerfully have all wants with him who is wise in counsel and excellent [illegible]

Sept. 24th Theodore and I stay at home, he went this morning to N-ham-
-ton. Our children returned thursday noon from Abington after a
prosperous journey. Our new ~~[illegible]~~ situation seems to be all that
we could wish. May the blessing of God Allmighty ever
attend them. Under his protection and guidance may they
pass thro' the scenes of their earthly pilgrimage, and at
length join the great company, redeemed out of every
nation and kindred and tongue and people, in ad[v]ancing
the glory of him who sitteth on the throne and of the
Lamb forever. — Thursday evening we had our friends here.
Charles and Helen Mr. F and wife, George and twins, Charles Hitch-
-cock and wife Giles and his wife. In our multiplicity of cares
O Father let us not lose our heavenly thots — suffer
us not to grieve away the blessed angels who minister
to thy children. may we sacredly reserve for thee,
such a portion of time as thou shalt choose. and may
we make progress in holiness and heavenliness of mind.
Mr. H is preaching today at Cummington. May his labors
and the labours of all thy servants this day be accompa-
-nied with thy Holy Spirit — that sinners may be converted
unto thee in great numbers and may Jesus see of the
travail of his soul and be satisfied. How long shall
iniquity prevail! — Arise O God in thy strength and save
our sinful world.

Oct. 1st. The Lord's supper was administered at N— today we all
attended worship there excepting Mary who stays with her
and little H— who is unwell with a slow fever, but is rather
better — Mr Stearns preached this morning from Luke
22d - 19th. This do in remembrance of me. This afternoon
Matthew 7th from the 24th verse — The sure foundation.
Father forgive the sins of this day and the last week —
and fill the world with thy glory —

Oct. 8th We all attended worship at N. excepting Theophilus & his wife. Mr Peabody of Springfield preached in the morning from Isaiah 63d 17th. O Lord why hast thou made us to err from thy ways &c. Mankind are prone to lay the blame of their sins upon any thing rather than themselves — and rather than have conscience do its work, they charge God foolishly — we may rest as, and that our circumstances are arranged for us in infinite wisdom and goodness; and if we ~~do not~~ our duty now, we should probably find it more difficult if our circumstances were different. This afternoon the text was in John 7th last verse, and 1st of 8th chapter. He contrasted the condition of our saviour, with that of his hearers, they at the close of the day departed each to his home, some to their splendid mansions and luxurious accommodations, he to the mountain far from the habitations of men. But desolate as he must appear to us, we know he was not alone, and in communion with his Father and in view of the pure enjoyments of the spiritual world he ~~he~~ could not be desolate. Our homes, our social enjoyments are all the fruit of our Redeemer's humiliation, example teaching and sufferings. — these earthly homes will fail though made pleasant and holy by prayer and piety, but Christ has provided for us also a home in the skies, where no ill can assail us, and which will unfading and eternal Thanks to God for the blessings of this sabbath — may the divine Spirit revive his work among our people, and accompany all the means of religion ~~in it~~ elsewhere. Frederic returned to College wednesday. Mary also went to N — with Charles, returned today. Mr. Hunt Athol — — yesterday 83, sixth day

Oct. 15th 1837 - Sabbath evening - We all went to N. shut up the house, In the morning Mr Hawes preached from these words Phill. Work out your own salvation &c. This afternoon Mr Hall our former pastor preached, from Job. 7th. 16th I would not live alway. Tho death was the penalty of disobedience, we are not bound to believe that these mortal bodies were design'd to be immortal, as to this we are not sure, but we know that as things are now, death is gain, Tho it is the dread and terror of the living yet how often does it prepare surviving friends for the reception of divine truth, and so soften the heart as to become capable of the love and service of God. In view of the infirmities and uselessness of old age, the heart would sometimes sink and the language must be I would not live always. Our dear departed friends also seem to be bending forward to beckon us onward, and welcome us to the purer regions above. The darkness which encompasses the divine dispensations is another reason why we should desire to leave this world. Our blessed saviour said What I do thou knowest not now but thou shalt know hereafter. We look upward with earnest desires that this promise may be fulfilled. A most interesting sermon, the Lord make it profitable to many. Went to Charles' at noon Helen better, but Elijah quite feeble. The Lord look upon him in mercy. Mr H - gone to Cummington. We had brother's family here last wednesday. Thursday Mr. Upthorp and Mrs. Fisher drank tea here. O Father grant us thy blessing thro' this week and may our thots words and conduct all be holy and acceptable to thee. Last wednesday Mr H - was sixty three years - may the remnant of life which is left to us be more devoted to thee - had a letter last night from Edward, thanks to thy goodness that his circumstances are so comfortable. And now O God of mercy shed abroad thy love in each of our hearts - give success to thy truth every where and let thy son be made King of nations as he is King of saints -

Oct. 22d Mr H. at Cummington carried Martha, Expects to come home a week from tomorrow - The family gone to N - excepting Theodore and myself - Frederic came home yesterday, will return tomorrow morning. -

Last Tuesday Charles carried Bettsie to N. to stay with him and
the children while Helen and Fanny are gone to Boston. Wednes=
=day the family all went to Cattle Show— but my self— thursday
Mr Colman called with the Prussian ambassador, President
Humphrey also called— Arthur Phelps is more unwell, spent
the week at Doct. Flint's.. my time has been too much engrossed
with earthly cares. We expect Elvira tomorrow, may I be enabled
to devote more time to heavenly exercises— and may kindness
mark all my conduct words and thots.. Blessed be God for
all the blessings of providence, and especially for the hopes of
the life to come. Heavenly Father, grant that the dear
departed may speak to us tho' dead— and may we be continu-
ally striving to become like those who have escaped from
the snares of the world— and are now serving thee with strong
immortal powers.— May thy kingdom come and thy will be done in
earth as it is in heaven— thro' Jesus Christ our Intercessor,
Oct 29th Today Mary stayed at home with Elvira who came wed-
=nesday. in the afternoon they went to the upper Mills.
The rest of us went to N— Mr Strams preached in the
morning from Romans 5th Tribulation worketh patience
&c— this afternoon Be not conformed to this world.—
went to Charles; at noon found all comfortable.
Thanks to God for the blessings of this sabbath—
tho' rather dull, not altogether in darkness had
some evidence of being a child of God, in reading
and in the exercises of the sanctuary. Tho much
of sin remains in my temper and conduct, yet praised
be God, I am not quite stupid I feel in some degree
the evil, and am permitted to look forward to a state
of purity and peace where all imperfection shall
cease. and we shall be like Jesus for we shall see
him as he is.— God grant it to me and all that I
love for Jesus sake.—

Nov. 5th It ~~was~~ been a rainy forenoon - and all staid at home - the rain has ceased, and Theodore has gone to N-- this afternoon to attend worship and bring Bethia home. I have been reading the life of the Saviour. Last thursday Mr Fisher, wife, and three boys, besides the baby spent the afternoon and evening here, with a widow Williams from Deerfield - Mrs. Flint also called to take leave as the family are soon to remove to Springfield - Tuesday Mr. H. carried Mary and Eliza to make calls in town. But what is all this to the interests of eternity? May I be more engaged in pursuing those objects which are satisfying and imperishable. Friday we had a letter from William. He is engaged in a good work. may the Spirit of God accompany and bless all his efforts. Wednesday Theophilus started from home at four in the morning, went to Hartford. accomplished his business and returned about ten at night. - ~~Friday~~ evening, Frederic and Gillet drank tea with us. Blessed be God who continues to me the hope of heaven, gives me health of body and tranquility of mind. - With all these powers, I would beg that they may be sanctified and devoted to the Infinite Giver. Give success O Father to the preaching of thy truth, and may Jesus see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied. - How long O Lord how long shall the powers of sin and darkness prevail? - Arise, O God in thy might and in thy majesty, and destroy the man of sin by the breath of thy mouth and the brightness of thy coming. for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory &c.

Nov. 12th We had a rainy morning again; Theophilus went to N. H. This afternoon Frederic Mary and I went to N— heard Mr. Parkman of Greenfield. His text was in Colossians If ye then be risen with Christ seek those things which are above where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God. - Bethia has been in the high school at N— the week past on account of the sickness of the teacher. Mr H gone to Athol Father in heaven give success to thy truth, which hath this day been dispensed, and may [illegible] be glorified thro' Jesus Christ to whom be glory [illegible] and amen.

Nov. 19th Bethia returned from N- yesterday- Today we all went to N- excepting Mr. H. B. and Elvira who went to N. H. Mr Stearns preached from Matthew Let your light so shine before men that they seeing &c- the benefit of example- this afternoon Micah, what doth the Lord thy God require but to do justly love mercy &c particularly justice was his subject. not (merely justice in regard to property, but doing justice in our feelings thought, and speech, to the reputation of others.- Refresh my spirit I pray thee by communication from thyself, and lead me to be more holy benevolent meek and faithful in all circumstances. Bless the world of mankind, and may Jesus reign ~~thro'out the world~~ to the glory of God the ~~Father~~--

This afternoon Nov. 26th I am at home alone. It is good to have time to turn our thoughts inward and upward. to look back upon all the way in which our heavenly Father has led us thro' this wilderness, and to ask ourselves whither we are going?- And what season more fit and proper than when we are called by our ~~rulers~~, to give thanks to God, as a people. On Thurs=day of this week, we are to come before his presence with thanksgiving and enter his courts with praise. We are to pre=pare a meat offering and a drink offering, and bless the name of the Lord, whose mercy endureth forever. In the preparations of the present week, may our thots be much occupied about spiritual things, and in our provisions for the body, let us not cease every hour, to seek by pray=er and heavenly thots, ~~&~~ ~~seek~~ those things which are above where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God. Our five children have gone to N- and Mr H- this afternoon has gone to N-H. he has been troubled with a pain in his hip for two weeks past, which we hope is wearing off- but the ways of God are unsearchable- may his dispensations be so improved by

us all, as to prepare us for our departure hence, and for ad=
=mission to those mansions which Jesus has gone to prepare
for his faithful followers.

Dec. 3^d 1837 – Today we have been to worship at N– all of us excepting Mr. H– who has taken medicine. We were allowed to come to the Lord's table and partake of his supper, represent=ing his body and blood –. I endeavoured to prepare my mind for the ordinance by reading and prayer; yet after all my affections were heavy and dull. At noon I read two sermons on the example of Christ, and part of some others –. Mr [Stearns'] text in the morning was in Luke 22^d ch. 44th verse. And being in an agony he prayed &c – This afternoon the text was in Jeremiah 32^d, 19th For thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men, to give every one according to his ways and accord=ing to the fruit of his doings – The past occasion of thanks=giving has been I fear fruitless – – as to imparting to the needy – But I hope to be able soon to collect a few things with the help of my children which shall rejoice the hearts of the ~~distant~~ poor – ~~Tuesday~~ evening we all excepting Mr H – went the Exhibition at [Amherst] next morning Theophilus and his wife set out for [Lexing=ton]. Frederic came home; in the evening Charles & Helen, Mr. Fisher and family came over to supper. next day the family all went to N – to worship, ex=cepting myself – in the evening brother's family all came here excepting Charles. – I would notice with grateful emotion the multiplied blessings of the past year. Particularly the preservation of health in our family and generally among our children. We have had little to excite our anxiety and much to contribute to our comfort. The earth has produced for us a supply for our necessities and the year has been crowned with the goodness of our God – Bless the Lord O our souls and let all that is within us praise him better than we have ever before done – –

Dec. 10th Sabbath noon. We are all at home to day, on account of the snow storm. Mary went to N– wednesday and has not returned. We have a variety of books and if our sabbaths are not profitably spent the fault is ours. Let me praise the good-ness of God, which has spared our lives, and surrounded us with blessings. To thee O my Father, I would again com-mend my dear children the present the absent, and the far distant. entreating for us all thy protection guidance and blessing in life death and eternity. For the departed shall I pray? They are I hope with the Lord, and all evil is withdrawn; all is light and purity and peace. yet I would ask that they become ministering spirits to us, and lead us onward in our way to heaven. Bless all the means of religion every where and let the world be filled with thy glory thro' Jesus Christ our Intercessor to whom be glory

Dec. 24th We all attended church at N– Mr. Fessenden preached in the morning from Luke 10th. 42. One thing is needful without religion every thing else will be of no value this afternoon a christmas sermon. Stayed at the church at noon, read in Christian Monitor– We have been hoping to see Edward before this, but he does not come. The Lord preserve him and give us to meet again in safety if it be his will. Last wednesday the women came over & spent the afternoon and evening with us sewing to prepare clothing for the poor, in that part of the country where Edward is. thursday Charles and Helen with the children came over and drank tea with us. yesterday Frederic came home– may these visits be attended with benefit to us all. Forgive the sins of this day– bless us all in time death and eternity thro' thy Son

Dec. 31st Last evening to our great joy Edward returned, came to Amherst and walked from there with Frederic. I had felt at times very uneasy at his long silence, and his delay in coming home. But kept it as much as possible to myself- lest I should alarm B. and M.- And now I would renew the dedication of myself to thee soul and body time and faculties. Employ me I pray thee in some way to glorify thy name. Help me to devise and execute some plans which may promote the cause of Jesus Christ.- He expects to leave us this evening. O Father all merciful, and Almighty, watch over him in all his journeyings, protect him from evil- strengthen him to duty. Help him to impart instruction to the ignorant. relief to the needy. and in all his ways may he please thee and enjoy thy presence and blessing.- Theophilus leaves us in the morning to bring home his wife. the Lord be with him and return him in safety. Then went with Frederic to N- heard Mr Stearns preach. returned at noon as there was not a second service.- May our intercourse to day be pure, and raise our hearts with more intense gratitude and devotion to thee. O Father glorify thy name and thy son's name. throughout the world. amen

Jan. 7th 1838- We attended worship at N- Mr Stearns preached from Romans 7th 18th- To will is present &c- On broken resolutions There is no security for keeping our resolutions but a supreme regard to the will and favour of God. This after=noon, Be of good cheer I have overcome the world.- Theoph=ilus returned with Eliza thursday night after a prosperous journey. yesterday they took possession of their new hab=itation. May their father's God be their God. may he dwell with them and keep them and cause his face to shine upon them and give them peace. O Father thy dealings have been very merciful. penetrate all our hearts with thy love. We have been permitted to enter upon another year. I desire to look back

with the most heartfelt gratitude, upon the mercies
of the past year; our lives have been preserved and
our health and comfort. Every day has witnessed
thy constant care and every moment has borne to us
countless blessings. O that I might more entirely
devote myself to thy service. Let me not become
engrossed with earthly things, but raise my affections
to thyself and may my whole future life be devot
-ed to thee. We know not what is before us. prepare
us all of our family wherever we are for all thy
will and pleasure. But above all things fit us
to die in peace and hope that our eternity may
be blessed. Grant that my mind may be much
occupied this week in prayer for the success of
the gospel and the salvation of men. And may
the united prayers of thy children obtain the bless[ing]

Jan. 14th 1838 Mr. H. Theophilus, B. M. E. and F. have gone to N--
Theodore, set out for Hatfield, but I cannot feel quite comfor[table]
for fear the ice was not good. O my Father prepare us for
all thy will. Last tuesday Theophilus, wife and myself
spent the day in N-- made visit at Mr. Stearns. Mr H--
not well enough to go. Thursday was a meeting of the Anti-
Slavery society. M. H-- B. T. and F. attended, first and last
staid all night. next morning Theophilus Mary and I went
over. and all came home together. Mary was requested to take
Miss Strong's place in the high school, and is gone, ^intending to enter
upon her labours tomorrow. We had a letter from Edward this
morning. dated Pembroke. had a prosperous journey thus far
let us give thee glory when it is due. My nerves are weak &
I am easily agitated! Pity me O my Father. and forgive all my
distrust of thee. remembering thy goodness to me in past time, may I strength[en]
myself in the Lord. Bless all the efforts for doing good and bless our country & the world for Christ's sake --

Jan. 28th Last sabbath B. and E. staid at home. the rest of us went to N-
Mr S- preached all day. Tuesday Frederic and I went over &
spent the day. I ~~[illegible]~~ dined with Mrs. Fisher. drank tea with Helen.
Wednesday Frederic returned to Amherst. Attended with a mother's
prayer prayers. Friday our two sons and daughters made a
visit to Martha, by particular invitation. To-day the family
have all gone to N- and I am striving to hold communion
with the Father of spirits. Thursday we had a letter from Edward
he arrived safely on monday. For all the blessings of his jour-
=ney I would render praise to God, who crowneth our lives
with his goodness. In reviewing the past week, I have rea-
=son to mourn over my evil heart, the remains of sin which
find a dwelling there. Woe is me, for I am a sinner, and am
too much under the dominion of evil thoughts and dispositions
may I never cease to pray and strive against all my
evil propensities, and thro' thy grace may I come off conqueror.
Great God who willst not that any should perish, be pleased to
accompany thy preached word and all the means of instruction
with the all conquering energy of thy Holy Spirit. so that very
many be this day converted to thee. and if it may please
thee honour me even me O Father! as an instrument to
build up thy kingdom. thro' Jesus Christ our Lord - to whom be glory amen
Feb. 4th This day completes fifty nine years since my mortal
life began. and the past year has been crowded literally
with blessings. We have had no distressing sickness in our
family, our temporal wants have been supplied, and the
light of God's countenance has been continued to my
unworthy heart - tho' sinning daily and constantly
he bears with me, and does not punish me as my
sins deserve. And now in the solemn retrospect of past
time and as in the presence of Infinite purity I would
implore thy blessing and presence the coming year. Leave
me not to myself - give thine angels charge over me and
mine, that we offend not against thee.
We all attended worship at N- Mr Stearns preached in the
morning from 2d Corin. 6th 2d. Now is the accepted time &c - In
the afternoon the Lord's supper was celebrated. sermon from Rom. 8th

Feb. 18th. Today Theodore and I stay at home, all the rest gone to ch
weather very cold twelve degrees before zero before sun rise.
Fanny has been with us a week, went back today. She
an example of all that is good. Thank God that her hea
is pretty good. I spoke to her repeatedly about raising he
first thoughts to God in the morning, and thanking him.
after she was in bed, and asking his care for her during
the night: a day or two after, I asked her if she remem
:bered to do it. she said she did the night before. May
he who delights in early piety, visit her young heart
with his spirit, and purify her even in infancy, that
she may ever be his own child. - Well do I remember
the agonizing prayers I offered for her salvation, while at
Oswego, in the days of my darkness and temptation, after
having heard of her birth. Who knows but those prayers
uttered from the depth of despair, were heard and accepted
in heaven, thro' the intercession of him who was "temp
:ed in all points like as we are, yet without sin."
Last wednesday Mr and Mrs Fisher, George, E-, with the
Misses Clapp drank tea here and spent the evening. Mary
who came from the singing society with Theodore the nig
before, returned with them. Tuesday Mr. H- and I made a
visit at Col. Porter's by invitation - in the evening Doct P-
came in and gave a favourable account of the revival
in Hatfield. There is also an unusual attention to religion
in North-Hadley. occasioned apparently by the death of Mr
Sperry. The Lord preside and regulate, and promote his own
work by his own means. Save from stupidity, indifferenc
and false hopes. - I have to lament my inward sinfulness,
violations of the law of love, want of self control, want of ac
:tivity in doing good - little effort for the promotion of religi
among others. O God of all good influence assist me. open to
me some course, that I may follow, and be instrumental
of good to souls. We are secluded, separated from society. but
if there is any thing which we can do in thy service, Lord
shew us what it is and prepare us to do it, that we may
no longer be cumberers of the ground. Help us at least to pray
with more fervour, thy kingdom come thy will be done in earth as in heaven
for Christ's sak

Hadley March 11th Today I am at home alone, Theodore gone to New York, the rest to Northampton. I have omitted writing on the sabbath, partly because it seems to multiply papers, and partly on account of the cold, having no comfortable place of retirement. I have endeavoured to bring devotion or prayer more into a fixed and constant habit of mind — yet how miserably do I fail in all my good intentions. The intrusion of vain and worldly tho'ts is a serious evil. Our own happiness depends upon our being like Jesus our example. His tho'ts were always good, always pure. O what a privilege to be pure, wholly free from imperfection. To have our thots always fixed upon those objects which God approves. To have our energies all employed in doing his will. This I have good reason to believe is the happy state of our departed children. And can death, by which alone we can arrive there, be an unwelcome messenger? — Are we so fond of our pollution, our fetters, our mortality? Why do we not pant after holiness, why are we not more earnest in our duty, that we may be in readiness for our release? Hear O Allmighty Father thro' our great Advocate my fervent intercessions for more of thy spirit to aid me in this great work. and let no good intentions or desires be forgotten by me. O grant the petitions of all thy children who call upon thee this day, and may peace and righteousness the light of the gospel and the glory of thy name be extended thro' the world, thro' Jesus Christ

March 25th F and T. and W F and I went to N— B— C— and Mr. H— staid at home in the morning, in the afternoon Mr H— went to N— Hadley— Mr Mears preached two excellent sermons in the morning let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind — the afternoon Luke 12th 21st So is every one ~~that~~ layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich towards God — O may the Divine Spirit make it effectual to the good of many souls — went to Mrs. Fisher's and Charly's at noon — Charles came home last night — Fanny & Elijah unwell —

April 1st 1838 – We all attended worship at N– excepting Mr. H–
who staid at home; brought home Mary who has finished her
school, and Bethia who went over to examination and staid till
to-day. We had a high entertainment this morning, Mr Stearns
preached from Luke 12th 4th 5th I say unto you be not afraid
of them that can kill the body and after that have no
more that they can do, but fear him &c On the certainty
and eternity of future punishment. I was much pleased
to find his views on this doctrine, which I have never
before been acquainted with so accordant what seems
to me to be the teaching of the bible – much that was
solemn and impressive in the sermon – God grant
much fruit in the hearts and lives of the hearers –
This afternoon The Lord's supper was celebrated – a solemn
occasion – Mr S– gave us many hints for self examina-
-tion, may we all become wiser and better – and may
the gospel have free course, run and be glorified – for Christ
April 8th Mary has been quite sick with a cold, taken before her
return home. She did not give up till Friday, that morning took
an emetic – yesterday was rather better, seems to be gaining –
God grant that she may be brought by this visitation
to see the vanity and insufficiency of worldly pleasure
and be led to set her heart on the imperishable treasure
the satisfying enjoyments, which are laid up for the humble
and self denying in heaven. The mercies of God have been
great and multiplied the last year. In the time of health
and prosperity may we be enabled by the help of God's
Spirit to prepare for sickness and death – may we
every day meditate upon this solemn event, and thus
be able to triumph, thro him who has conquered the last
enemy – O Father give thy Son the heathen for his inheritance
and may sinners every where be converted unto thee –

on earth.

Hadley April 15th 1838. The Holy Sabbath. Mr. H— went yesterday to Greenfield to help Mr. Parkman, who is gone to Boston. F. E. B. and S. have gone to Doct. Brown's Church — and Theodore M. and F are at Northampton. Another still time. May He who seeth in secret, so assist my private exercises, that wandering thoughts and vain imaginations, wordly cares, and desires may be excluded, and my soul may be filled and in some degree satisfied with the provisions of the gospel. Last Tuesday Samuel Lyon came to live with Theophilus — may the connexion be pleasant and improving to all. Thursday Mr. H. and I went to Northampton dined at Charles; found little Edward Fisher sick with a cold, little Fanny also. God grant ~~that~~ these ailments so frequent may be the means of purifying their hearts and lives, so that they may all be fitted for life or death and heaven at last. Frederic came home to spend a week and help his father. O Spirit of Purity and peace help me to make some prudent efforts to solemnize his mind, and guard him against the contagion to which he is exposed by the levity and folly of thoughtless associates. —

April 22d — All attended worship at N. excepting Mr. H who staid at home. Mr. Stearns preached in the morning from 1st John — 4th 20th. This afternoon Acts 8th 30th ~~Understandest thou~~ what thou readest. Subscribed 1 dol. for the purpose of making the four ministers of N. life members of the Bible society. Carried Fanny home to day — she has been here since monday. O Father dispose her parents to treat her with all ~~that~~ tenderness which her disposition seems to require, and let her have health of body and purity of mind and heart — so that her departure from earth may be her introduction to heaven — had a few words with Mrs. Fisher respecting baptism. Lead them I pray thee to the knowledge of truth and the practice of duty — Frederic leaves us tomorrow — help me to give him a word of caution — and wilt thou send to him the influences of thy Spirit, to guide him in thy own right way — bless this sabbath and enlighten the world thro' Jesus Christ

June, 3d 1833 We have had a feast of fat things - a most refresh-
-ing season in the house of God this morning Mr. H—n's sermon
was upon these words in Phillippians, To die is gain. I felt
indeed that it was good to be there. I could almost see my
dear children in their glorified state. Something like a funeral
sermon. Mr. Church requested prayers for the death of his sist[er]
and a Mr. Langdon on account of the death of a child -
In the afternoon the Lord's supper was administered - and
previously Julia Dikeman and Caroline Young received bap-
-tism - It was a most interesting sight - and one which
drew tears of joy and gratitude from my eyes, what can
be more lovely, than the consecration of the first fruits, the
freshness and purity of youth to God, it is a spectacle which
angels must delight to witness - and now Infinite Source
of light and love, impart unto them of thy spirit that they
may hold on their way in thy strength, and at length reap
the reward of good and faithful servants, accompany with thy
blessing the labours of our minister and add to our church
many who shall be saved. Bless and prosper thy truth every
where and fill the world with thy glory -

Last sabbath I spent at Charles's came home on monday
which was Frederic's and Whiting's birth day - observed wedn[esday]
religiously, on this account instead of monday - that day
F. returned to College. my most hearty prayers went with
and follow him daily - he has been with us again to d[ay]
may every one of this family be improved by the advantages
of this sabbath - thro' Jesus Christ our Lord to whom be glory for[ever]
June 10th We have again attended worship at N— Mr. H—n is un[well]
and Mr. Hubbard of the high school preached for us - in the morn-
-ing upon the power of God, this afternoon upon these words in
Romans 1st 20th For the invisible things of him, from the crea-
-tion of the world are clearly seen &c went to Charles's at noon,
Fanny is better, but feeble - went to church all day,
Helen quite smart - Heard from Edward again - O Father
prosper and bless him. I wrote and sent on a letter last tuesday
Wednesday Mr. Bridge and Miss Harding came here before
dinner, on account of the rain they staid all night - thurs-
-day our young folks went to Doct. Porter's met there Mrs. J.
Williams from the west - Forgive O Father the sins of this day
and bless the word every where for the salvation of sinners. for Christ['s sake]

June 17th We have all been to N— today excepting T. and T.
who went to North Hadley — Mr. Peabody preached from ~~John~~
Acts 1st 9th And when he had spoken these things while they
beheld he was taken up, and a cloud received him out of their
sight. This afternoon. The only son of his mother and she
was a widow — The character of our Saviour imitable by us
chiefly in its benevolence, witness the wonders which are
accomplished by the benevolent efforts of this gospel day —
went to Charles's, in the morning found her finely with a
promising little daughter — It was born wednesday after tea.
How much cause for gratitude have they, and all
of us — gracious God penetrate their hearts, with a
sense of thy goodness, and attach them all more entirely
to thyself. make them feel more deeply their obligations
and help them to increase in all holiness and righteous-
-ness — Today the girls drank tea at Mr. Gaylord's — Fred-
-erick walked to N— yesterday with Clapp came home
after meeting Fanny came home with us too, may her visit
here prove beneficial to her health — I lament my world-
-liness, in thy holy day — and that of my children, O forgive
us all our sins, and lead us in the way everlasting —
Cause the word preached this day to be accompanied
by thy influence and may the world be converted to thee.
June 24th We went this morning all excepting B— to N— Mr. S.
preach from 1st Peter, 1st chapter 15th But as he which hath called
you is holy, so be ye holy &c — To make us holy the Son of
God laboured and suffered and shed his blood — and without
a supreme desire after holiness, all our professions and hopes
are vain, those who have begun in the christian life will make
progress, It is essential to the existence of spiritual life that it
it increase — Mr. Stearns deferred his service till 1/2 past 3 —
and after calling at Charles's we came home, Helen seems very
well, and has a healthy baby — O that ~~Charles~~ ~~seem~~ to ~~[illegible]~~ a suitable impression
may be made upon her heart and mind and that of her
husband, by these signal blessings — Fanny went home with us
and was sadly grieved that she could not come back, Charles
came, to stay a week — We were requested last week to take

Mr. Tucker man to board - we were foolish enough to con-
-sent - without any hired help it was very improper
to do it - I hope he will find another place during the mon
which he stays, that will suit him better. - The Lord c
provide, he can bring us out of the difficulties in to
which we plunge ourselves. - Mrs. [illegible] Ashley and Miss
Welch drank tea here Tuesday - the next day [illegible] and L
Field came and staid two nights - Wednesday F. E. and M-
drank tea at Mr. Oliver Smith's - we had a letter from
Edward thursday - It is a privilege to hear from our absen
children - and a privilege to bring them in prayer to the
mercy-seat - O Father hear my poor prayers for them, an
for the advancement of thy cause in the world - open the
eyes of sinners to see that their feet stand on slippe
places - may the truth this day have free course and
be glorified and may the Prince of Peace reign thro' ou
the world -

July 1st I am at home alone today - we might have gone all of us;
but it was rainy and late before a plan was formed. Frederic
came home last night - he brought over Mrs. Allen, and her siste
Miss Mather in the afternoon, carried them back, and walked
home in the evening. - Mrs Fisher came over thursday morni
and stayed with Ann and the three youngest children till frida
night - then Mr. Fisher came over with the twins and E - a
took them home. Little Charles has spent the week with
he has been a very good boy. - May the Spirit of God early
take possession of his spirit soul and body - gone home tod
It is many weeks since we heard from William; he may be
sick, he was at this time last year - I can only leave hi
in the hands of a covenant keeping God. and what else
would I do? None ever trusted him in vain - and I unworthy a
I am have often found him better to me than my fears. Ind
he is good and his mercy endureth forever - On wednesda
our national Independence will be celebrated - I pray tha
suitable feelings may be indulged, and that devout gratitu
may mingle with the services of the occasion. Help me O m
Father in the remaining duties of the day bless and pardon al
my dear family and friends and may thy kingdom come &
will be done thro' out the world for Jesus' sake to whom be glory forever am

July 8th 1838- This morning we all went to N- excepting Mr. H-
who is not very well- on account of weakness. Mr. Stearns deferd
his second exercise till six in the evening, and we came home
Wist ye not that I must be about my Fathers business?
was the text an old sermon but very good. It seemed to
strengthen my hope of heaven. For if I am not much
deceived, I do desire to serve and please God more earnestly
than I desire any earthly good. Tuesday Mr H- and I
went to N- and brot home Fanny- Friday Charles came
over and brought Charlie and Elijah, stay'd to tea. Fanny
went home with us today. If I have said any thing to her
of religion, let it make a lasting impression- The fourth
of July has pass'd off- and I did nothing strange or new
on the day- the only thing I did to make it singular
was some fervent petitions which I offered repeat-
=edly for our beloved country, that our government may
be administered in righteousness- that slavery oppression
war intemperance sabbath breaking uncleanness
profanity- and every evil work may cease- Today
as we returned, we visited the graves of our children
and parents- but they are not there- the mortal
part, is there in ruins, but O glorious thought
& joyful truth, God is not the God of the dead
but of the living- for all live to him!- thursday
Mrs. Norton called here, and in speaking of our depart-
=ed friends we had a cheering communion of heavenly
thought- and now O my Father strengthen us all to
the duties of the coming week- and fit us all for thy
will- had a letter last week from Edward- he feels his
himself criminal, guilty O Father give him a
sense of thy pardoning mercy thro' Jesus Christ
and hear and answer and bless us all and all man-
kind, of thy mercy in thy son to whom be glory forever amen.
July 15th. This morning we again heard Mr. L- preach from John
15th 15th- Henceforth, I call you not servants &c- The friend-
ship of Christ for mankind, for man in his most miser-

the and wicked state – came home at noon – thursday [illegible]
and his family came over, he brought them in the
morning and returned came again and drank tea
with us – Yesterday Frederic brot an invitation from
Mrs. Allen, and Mr H – Mary and I went there with
him. Thursday after dinner Mrs. Wells, and Mrs. Whit[ing]
spent an hour or two with us. The season is drawing
near in which our children languished and died –
may our thots be much occupied with the scenes
that are past, and may we study to be like Jesus that
when our day of life is past we may find that purity o[f]
peace in heaven – we had two letters from William last
week thro' the goodness of our heavenly Father – –
July 22d – We have all attended worship at N– today – Mr Par[ker]
man preached in the morning from Luke 14th 28 – For who of y[ou]
sitteth not down and counteth the cost. – a very sensible serm[on]
full of instruction to the vicious, the worldly, and those also
who have chosen the better part – may the spirit of God [enable]
it to bear fruit an hundred fold – – This afternoon Mr [Par-]
man preached from these words, Greater love hath no man
than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends,
the example of Christ encourages us to go on in every bene-
:volent enterprise, even tho' we see little good resulting.
Went to Charles's at noon – all well. Mrs. Mills came [in the]
evening. Last evening we had letters from William and Edw[ard]
This is the anniversary of our dear Whiting's last sabbath
on earth – most earnestly do I pray that his falling ma[n-]
:tle may rest upon all of us who are left –
July 29th Sabbath. Today I went with Theophilus, Bethia and [?]
to N– In the morning Mr Stearns preached from these words
If thou wilt enter into life keep the commandments – – We
have ever been seeking to enter heaven in some easier wa[y]
but there is no other – stayed at church in the intermission
attended the Old church in the afternoon heard an accou[nt]
of the low state of religion in France –

Yesterday was the anniversary of our dear Whiting's death;
and I made a feeble attempt to humble myself before
God on the occasion and pray for greater degrees of holiness
and devotion to God. I brought all my dearest interests
to him who heareth prayer. I have been bless'd with much
tranquility of mind for some time past. for which I
would render thanks to my Father in heaven, for from
him alone cometh all my blessings. Pardon O Father
for Jesus sake the sins of this sabbath. and may
we all be preparing for the heavenly rest. Mr Stearns
prayed most heartily for the abolition of slavery.
and for success in the proposed emancipation on the
first of August I thank God who has brought him
upon christian ground upon this subject, and that
he fearlessly advocates the cause before his congre=
=gation. And I am thankful also that the people in
N. are about to improve the first of August to
bring the subject up before the public. may the
God of justice and mercy smile upon all the
efforts which are made for the good of mankind.

August 5th We have all been to N. excepting Theophilus. had another
opportunity of gathering around the table of our suffering
dying and risen Saviour, Mr. S. preached from Romans
5th 8th. But God commendeth his love toward us in that
while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. This seems to
have been the great end of Christ's mission not to condemn
the world but that the world thro' him might be saved.
And this idea is in harmony with the teaching of the
beloved disciple, who says "God is love". However the dis=
=pensations of Providence may seem to oppose this truth
yet when we consider that this is a state of discipline
and that whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, that they
may be partakers of his holiness. It is all consistent and beau=
=tiful. Frederic came home for two or three days a week ago
last friday in company with Miss Mather a distant

-getation of Mr H- from Windsor who is staying with her sister in Amherst- she went back thursday ~~Frederic~~ left us Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday ~~afternoon~~ Mr H and I went to N- drank tea at Charles', and attended the celebration of the emancipation of the slaves in the West Indies. Mr. Childs spoke at length and Mr. Stearns gave a very suitable address full of feeling he also made the concluding prayer.- Friday Mrs. Rup of Middletown, and her grand daughter Mrs. Hunt Bu-ler of N- drank tea here. had some pleasant and refreshing conversation with her.. The Lord pardon all that was amiss.- These days eight years ago were full of anxiety and fearful forebodings.- may I so remember the scenes as to have my faith and obedience strengthened and increased.-. may this sabbath be abundantly bless'd every where to the salvation of souls-

August 12th Mr Stearns preached this morning from Luke If ye then being evil know how to give &.-. on the influences of the Spirit- These are universal unbounded, accompanying every event, every dispensation of divine Providence so that we cannot say of any, however wicked he is forsaken of God. Next wednesday will be eight years since our dear Catharine laid down the mortal part- and what are her employments now?- vain question, no answer comes from the world of spirits- but Jesus our great teacher said I am the resurrection and the life- In my Father's house are many mansions I go to prepare a place for you because I live ye shall live also-- what I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter- this shows that our knowledge will be increased- and as it must- under the instruction and blessing of a God of love, what may we not hope for- may the blessing of the sabbath reach far and wide even into eternity-

August 19th 1838. The good hand of our God has brought us thus far in safe=
ty - we have attended worship at N. Mr Stearns preached from
John 4th 23d. But the hour cometh in which the true worshippers
shall worship &c - rode to Charles's after morning service
found little Charles unwell, quite feverish, tho' rather
better, and Helen troubled with a shortness of breath and
pain in her side - and shoulder - the Lord send relief or
what is far better, an sanctified improvement of the
discipline. Last Monday cousin Dan and his wife, and
cousin Eliza and her husband came to see us - the two
last, left us thursday morning the others wednesday
morning. Mrs Lyon and Mr Sharpe and his daughter came
Tuesday night, he left the next day and they remain
with Theophilus and Eliza - Thursday Theodore &
Mary drank tea at Doct. Bells - in the evening Edward
arrived quite unexpectedly - we are thankful that
he was preserved in dangers and brought home in safe=
=ty - most earnestly do I entreat for him thy guidance
and blessing - provide a situation and employment
for him which shall yield him the means of living and
living honestly - the treasures of the earth are all
at thy disposal - thou knowest I do not seek the riches
of this world. but I do earnestly entreat that he may
be able to pay his debts and live unembarrassed - for
this purpose I pray that thou wilt enable those
who owe him to do their duty and thus may jus=
=tice be done to all - - bless all the instructions of this
holy sabbath and may all mankind receive and
enjoy the blessings of the gospel -
Sabbath evening August 26th Bethia staid at home, all the rest went
to N -. Mr Stearns preached from Luke 12th 48 - on the improve=
=ment of talents - This afternoon - Wist ye not that I must

be about my Father's business — to the young occasioned by
the sudden death of Frances Thent — yesterday Charles bro[illegible]
over his wife and children in the morning, left them and
came for them before tea — Helen is still troubled for breat[h]
the Lord direct to and bless the means used for her relie[f]
no hand but thine can remove disease. Lord help, spare h[er]
still to be a blessing to her little family — and make
them all thy dear and holy children — Wednesday ou[r]
(parents & children)
cousin Abigail Mrs Brings with her husband came
to see us stayed till next day after noon. — the same
day Mary and F — and Mr Ky — drank tea at brother's
We have had an uncommon share of company this
summer — making almost constantly a bustling time
but praised be God for health and strength and the
bounties of his providence which enable us to use
hospitality — Father of mercies give us grace to
improve every occurrence for our best good — follow
with thy blessing all the instructions of thy servant
every where, and may thy glory fill the earth — Our
dear Frederic has entered upon his last year in col-
lege — came home wednesday after commencement —
Theodore and Mary went out and Theophilus &
his young people — will thou take thou take
care of us this week and thro' life, and bring us all
and our dear children at length to thy kingdom
above for Jesus sake who is worthy — for his sake
pardon accept and bless us —

Sept 2d I am again in a state of anxiety — our dear Helen
seems to be failing — for two or three weeks she has be[en]
troubled with a difficulty of breathing, she has been
using remedies. but as yet without effect, last
friday she was carried to Mr Clarke's to try the air there

and be relieved from the cares of the family - a week ago today she attended church, rode with us - in the afternoon had Doct. Barrett to see her. next morning took an emetic, Charles came over and carried back Bethia she has been there ever since and Charlie stays with us. Tuesday we all went to mount Warren, with brother's family and Theophilus's - - Tuesday the young people went to Toby &c - gone all day - Charles called with B - and the children in the afternoon - the next day our family and brother's were invited to Theophilus. Mr H and I stayed at home. - thro the week Helen's situation has lain heavily upon my mind and I have been trying to prepare my mind for a separation - I have implored a throne earnestly that God would sanctify her. That he would prepare her for all his will, and not her only but all her dear family - we all need correction. Father correct us in mercy and not in judgment. -
Tomorrow I must observe as a day of fasting and prayer on her account - and also on Edward's who left us last Tuesday morning for New York. -
Mr Hasby preached from Hebrews 10th - 23d - let us hold fast the profession of our faith &c - a very clear statement of the views of Unitarians, and the tendency of their doctrines - contrasted with those of Calvinists -
This afternoon Job - my heart shall not reproach me so long as I live - at the close of his sermon he made a beautiful and touching address to children and his closing prayer seemed to be the overflowing of a heart ~~[illegible]~~ filled with the love of souls may a blessing follow - -

Sept. 9th 1838 - I would make a hasty record of the anxieties
and blessings of this sabbath - Mr Stearns preached in the
morning upon the resurrection - this afternoon, from the
word, whatsoever ye do in word or deed do all in the
name of the Lord Jesus. - Went to Charles's at noon
found Helen no better - she gave her infant to Mrs
W - to nurse last week - hoping it would affect her
favourably - but her milk is drying up which dis-
-courages her. Thou O Father who hast made us knowest
our weakness, and hast made known to us that thou
dost not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men
thou art laying upon her a heavy burden sickness the
prospect of wasting disease and death, and the trial of
leaving her dear little children motherless. O thou
God of the Spirits of all flesh, speak the word and
her sorrow shall be turned into joy - and even in
death thou canst cause her to triumph - give her tha
trust in God which shall make her as mount Zion
for her husband O God I also pray; thou knowest
how earnestly I have begged for them both thy sancti-
-fying grace - now O my Father in the time of
their need, help them, and may all thy dealings
toward us be for our eternal good - -
Sept. 16th We have all been to N - Mr. Stearns preached in the
morning from Mat. 10th think not that I am come to send pea[ce]
religion is not the cause of contention, but the occasion - this
afternoon on looking at the things which are not seen,
Last monday Charles brot over Bethia and all the chil-
-dren, and they stayed till yesterday when he came &
carried them back - Helen still remains with Mrs Clark
rides, much in good weather - her friends urge her to
go to Boston - her general health is better rests better
at night - and breathes better. It is altogether uncertai[n]

how her sickness will terminate. The Lord prepare her
and her husband, and all nearly concerned for whatever
may be his holy will. But this one thing I must
plead for with importunity, that her spiritual good
and that of her husband and all her friends may be
secured and promoted by all thy dispensations to us
us. May thy spirit go with thy word and make
it bring forth fruit to the glory of thy name, thro'
Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour amen.
I would notice the goodness of God in preserving our
dear Theophilus, and blessing the means used
for his recovery. O save him I beseech thee from
the power of evil and make him strong in the
Lord and in the power of his might.
Sept 23d Mr. Stearns preached this morning from Matthew
Take no thought for the morrow — this afternoon from these
words Let no man seek his own but every man another's
wealth — Helen left home for Boston thursday, her
symptoms were more favorable than and also the next
morning when she left Brookfield — Praised be the
Lord — Bethia stays with Charles and the children
I implore of thee that this visitation of thine hand
may not be without its sanctifying influence
on herself her husband and all nearly concerned —
may they become more spiritual — and indifferent
as to earthly things and may we all learn heavenly
wisdom by what we suffer — wednesday Mrs H
and I made a visit at Doct. Pitcher's — thursday
Theophilus and I went to M— in the morning — he
attended the temperance meeting. — Father of mercies
follow with thy divine influence all the instructions
of thy word, and let the truth every where prevail — had
a letter from W. and E — thanks to God for his goodness
to them. Last Tuesday night Mr Ta Merman left us
suddenly to attend his dying mother, may her death
be the life of his soul. all I ask is in the name of thy son

Sept 30th Shut up the house and all went to N- Mr. Stearns preached in the morning from Job. 5th 17th despise not thou the chastening of the Lord. Last week widow David Hunt, and Christopher Clarke were carried to their long home. Thursday Edward called on us very unexpectedly, came to N- on private business for his employers; I do feel thankful that he is so well provided for; may thy kind care ever keep and bless him. The same day Mr. Fisher and Mr. Apthorp call in the afternoon the latter quite unwell.. We have been greatly comforted by intelligence from Helen - the Lord perfect his begun goodness, and spare her yet, to train up the dear little ones in the good and right way. I implore a blessing on all the means of religion this day enjoyed - prepare us . all for the duties and sufferings of mortality, and bring us all at length to thy heavenly ~~rest~~, thro' Jesus Christ our Saviour -

Oct. 7th We have all been to N- today - joined in celebrating the Lord's supper - Theophilus went to Hadley with his wife and her mother. was not included in the invitation to the Lord's table and spent the intermission in walking - visited the grave yard. May these privations, and trials, teach him patience kindness of feeling, submission and obedience to the will of God. Mr. Parkman preached at N- went to Charles' at noon - they expect Helen the last of this week - her recovery seems like a miracle - O Father make them suitably sensible of their obligations and assist them to be more entirely devoted to thee. I pray also for the world of mankind, that the truth may have free course, and spread throughout the world - that it may destroy all that is evil, and establish the reign of righteousness on the earth -